MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

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Maghreb

Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi held talks with Moroccan King Hassan II in Morocco near the Algerian border, Rabat radio reported, and signed an unspecified agreement. KUNA had earlier speculated that the meeting would include Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Saudi King Fahd and that the main topic would be the Western Sahara conflict.

Following his discussions in Morocco, Algiers radio reported that Al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Algiers and held talks with Bendjedid. In related developments, Bendjedid telephoned Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and received a call from King Hassan II, according to the radio.

Libya

Commenting on the failure of Arab governments to respond to the "nationalist initiatives" proposed by Libya's "revolutionary forces," an *AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR* editorial cited by JANA warned that such regimes have until September to redeem themselves: otherwise "we'll deal with them" through "exporting revolution and revolutionary violence."

Red Sea Mines

An anonymous caller telephoned AFP's Beirut office to reaffirm that the Islamic Jihad organization was responsible for mining the Red Sea. Denying that Iran or Libya were in any way involved in the operation, he claimed that a team of divers had laid the mines and warned of further minelaying if the Western nations continue their "imperialist" policies. However, in remarks reported by MENA, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak opined that Libya was responsible, though he added that the Egyptian authorities are still waiting to discover a mine to confirm their suspicions. He expressed the hope that nothing will be found implicating Iran in the mining.

In London, Lloyd's insurance company disclosed that 16 ships have been damaged by the mines, including a Soviet freighter which was hit on 6 August, according to AFP. Meanwhile, a Saudi official source announced that three U.S. helicopters and two French minesweepers would shortly arrive in the Kingdom to participate in the search for "foreign bodies" in the Red Sea, Riyadh radio reported.

Gulf Conflict

Attacks on Tankers — A Lloyd's spokesman stated that there is no "independent confirmation" of Iraqi claims to have destroyed five vessels in the Gulf on 11 August, KUNA reported.

Iraqi Diplomacy — In a statement cited by MENA following his meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Cairo, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz disclosed that he conveyed a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and that the talks were held in an atmosphere of "understanding and amity." 'Aziz added that bilateral relations are "excellent"

Meanwhile, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan was received in Amman by Jordanian King Husayn, Amman radio reported. The two sides reviewed the present Iraqi military position in the conflict with Iran. Ramadan also discussed the establishment of an oil pipeline from Iraq to the Jordanian port of Aqaba during talks with Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, according to Amman radio. The two sides signed a cooperation agreement on trade, transport, and communications, INA noted.

Israel

The 11th Knesset session was convened in a ceremony broadcast by Jerusalem radio and television. Interior Minister Yosef Burg, leader of the National Religious Party, was appointed acting speaker by President Hayim Herzog because of his seniority, although the Alignment faction has questioned the legality of the appointment, according to Jerusalem radio. The Knesset's regulating committee agreed to establish on a temporary basis a foreign affairs and defense committee and a finance committee, the radio added. The Knesset will reconvene next week.

Pakistan

Protest to DRA — Pakistan protested to the DRA over another violation of its airspace by Afghan aircraft, Karachi radio reported. Three Afghan planes overflew Pakistani territory early on 13 August, killing one person and wounding five others in a bomb attack southwest of Parachinar, the radio said.

Conspiracy Charges — A special court charged 98 people with conspiring to overthrow President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's government, Delhi radio disclosed. While 56 of the accused are currently in jail, many of the others are in exile, including two sons of late Prime Minister Zulfiqar 'Ali Bhutto.

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Fatah Seeks PNC Meeting Before 15 Sep

LD131713 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1429 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Tunis, 13 Aug (KUNA) — It was revealed here today that the visit paid by a Palestinian delegation to Algeria yesterday afternoon was primarily aimed at informing President Chadli Bendjedid that the wish to convene the PNC before 15 September is "a collective wish of the Fatah Central Committee and not only the wish of Mr 'Arafat."

Informed Palestinian sources told KUNA that during the meeting with the Fatah delegation, which comprised Yasir 'Arafat, Salah Khalaf, and Mahmud 'Abbas, with the participation of the member of the FLN Permanent Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, Mr Sadik Zouaten, President Bendjedid stressed the readiness of Algeria to host the upcoming PNC meeting.

Kuwait AL-WATAN Interviews DFLP's Hawatimah

GF101450 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 9 Aug 84 P 3

[Sattar Jabbar dispatch]

[Excerpts] DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah stressed that during the recent round of talks between the National and Democratic Alliances which took place on 18 july, the PNC chairman summed up a number of questions to be answered by both alliances. In a telephone conversation with him at his residence in Damascus, Hawatimah said that on 22 July the Democratic Alliance submitted its answers which indicated a complete readiness to reach a political and organizational accord between both alliances by which they could move to a comprehensive national dialogue among all the resistance factions without vetoing each other.

The Democratic Alliance affirmed its readiness to discuss all disputed issues whether between both alliances or in the framework of the comprehensive national dialogue. Al-Fahum [PNC chairman] received the memorandum of the Democratic Alliance which concurs with the alliance's programs that are derived from the Algiers-Aden agreement.

In the meantime on the same day, the National Alliance submitted its answers which placed everything at a deadend. The National Alliance insisted that no agreement could be achieved prior to 'Arafat's dismissal from all legitimate institutions of the PLO. It also insisted on keeping the division within Fatah by demanding, as a condition, the Fatah Central Committee to accept the 18-point report of the PLO Central Council of August 1983, and that if the Central Committee refused, the National Alliance would have to depart the sphere of the national Palestinian action. Therefore, everything remains unsettled because such conditions do not lead or result in a comprehensive national dialogue.

Asked about his recent statement that Soviet, PDRY, and Algerian delegations will soon visit Damascus to reconcile viewpoints among the Palestinian parties on the one hand and between the Palestinians and Syria on the other hand, the DFLP secretary general said: This is what the capitals of these countries informed us when we visited them. We have also learned that Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Near East Department, who will visit Damascus during the next 24 hours, will have this matter on his agenda.

Asked about Yasir 'Arafat's recent statement in which he said that the PNC will be convened on 15 August, Hawatimah affirmed that these statements do not in anyway serve united national action, because convening the PNC on 15 August is not on the present agenda, nor was the matter discussed in any of the Palestinian meetings, the last of which took place last Monday, 30 July, between the delegation of the Democratic Alliance and the Fatah Central Committee. What was actually discussed was the means to secure a comprehensive national dialogue as a prelude to the PNC meeting in accordance with the Algiers-Aden agreement.

Asked about Abu Iyad's [Salah Khalaf] recent statement to *AL-WATAN* in which he said that there are in all organizations those who try to impede the Aden agreement, Hawatimah stressed that there are forces inside many Palestinian resistance factions that want to damage the Algiers-Aden agreement. For example, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has often made statements to preserve his relationships with the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes by attacking the Algiers-Aden agreement, thus directly contributing to the destruction of the agreement. Thus, we have raised this issue in the recent Algiers talks between the Democratic Alliance and the Fatah Central Committee, and they have affirmed that Fatah will adopt a firm stand against this sabotage and will announce its solid commitment to the Algiers-Aden agreement in letter and spirit.

Fatah Dissident Answers Hawatimah's Accusations

NC101944 (Clandestine) Palestinian Voice of National Unity in Arabic 1545 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus — In reply to statements made by Nayif Hawatimah [DFLP secretary general], a Palestinian source in the Fatah movement made the following statement:

Comrade Nayif Hawatimah made a statement that was published by the Central Information Committee of the Democratic Front, holding the National Alliance responsible for sowing dissension and division in the PLO and alleging that the National Alliance is insisting on pursuing coup solutions [hulul inqilabiyah] outside the PLO's legitimate institutions.

By this statement, Comrade Hawatimah is trying to disregard the real crisis resulting from the deviationist policy 'Arafat and his Central Committee have been pursuing. Hawatimah is also trying to give the impression that the National Alliance is preventing a comprehensive dialogue. It is truly regrettable that Hawatimah should accuse the National Alliance of being coupist at a time when he is attempting to turn the dispute into administrative gains he will obtain from 'Arafat by [word indistinct] the solidity of the national stand of the Fatah movement and the National Alliance.

The Palestinian arena can no longer tolerate procrastination and compromises. The only solution in the current phase of the struggle lies in the downfall of 'Arafat — as a symbol and the downfall of his policies — as a prelude to overthrowing all those who are wagering on an imperialist settlement in the Palestinian arena.

PLO Official Discusses Aden-Algiers Agreement

LD131349 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Aug 84

[By Salih Nizal]

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Aug (KUNA) — Member of the PLO Executive Committee and its information official, Mr Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh stated that Aden-Algiers agreement among a number of Palestinian resistance detachments guarantees, among other things, a collective leadership inside the PLO and a comprehensive participation by all the Palestinian patriotic powers in drawing up the organization's policy.

In a press conference which he held today at noon in the headquarters of the PLO here today, he stated the agreement stresses the formation of a general secretariat which could be considered the day-to-day leadership of the organization in all political, administrative, and military fields. The agreement also specifies the expansion of the authority of the leadership institutions in the organization, including the Palestinian Central Council, in order that their resolutions become binding for the day-to-day leadership. He explained that this organizational development is dictated by national necessity. It is also a result of an in-depth study of the mistakes of the past and the necessity of confronting these mistakes with courage and responsibility.

As to whether collective leadership means an admission of mistakes in individual leadership, or that the stage of leadership has ended because of the current circumstances, Mr 'Abd Rabbuh, who is also the deputy secretary-general of the PFLP, said that individualism and autocracy exist within the PLO, and a frank dialogue took place about this matter during the Aden and Algiers talks, and the resistance detachments stressed that the way to guarantee the unity of the organization is by fulfilling the conditions of collective leadership within its institutions. He said that the Aden agreement specified a number of administrative guarantees for consecrating the collective leadership and for actually transforming the organization into a national front representing all the patriotic forces within the ranks of the Palestinian people. He explained that individualism is not in the interest of any Palestinian patriotic side and is also not in the interest of the national front which is represented by [words indistinct].

Dissident Fatah Leader on Dialogue, Other Issues

JN131849 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1725 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] In an interview with the foreign press in Damascus, Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] announced that dialogue between the Palestinian National Alliance and Democratic Alliance is frozen because the latter did not abide by the agreements concluded by the two sides. He said that the factions of the National Alliance will not attend the PNC session until an agreement is reached with the Democratic Alliance stipulating the need to terminate Yasir 'Arafat's membership in PLO institutions and before reaching a political and organizational agreement on all issues concerning the future of the PLO. Abu Musa added he and his companions have asked the Democratic Alliance to resume the dialogue in order to reach an agreement and he is awaiting their reply. He warned that convening a PNC session before an agreement is reached will make those participating responsible for any PLO dissidence that might affect the PLO's future.

Asked about the kind of reply the National Alliance will make if the PNC does convene, Abu Musa said: Every action has a reaction, and we are now holding consultations within the National Alliance and with a number of national Palestinian figures, in addition to Syria and Libya, in order to reply in a practical way, assuming the session takes place. He said verbatim: Frankly speaking, so far we have had no clear decision on the method of reply and have not made a final decision in this regard. A proper decision will be made at the proper time. He also warned the factions of the Democratic Alliance by saying that convening the PNC in this manner will be considered a dissident step for which they will be held responsible.

Col Abu Musa said he does not care which party assumes power in Israel because armed struggle will continue until the Palestinian people return to their homeland. He said:: We are studying new plans for the continuation of fighting and for transferring the real revolution to the entire occupied territory.

In reply to another question on the dismissal of Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] and Abu Akram from the movement's leadership, Abu Musa said: This is not another split within the Fatah movement. However, there were some disagreements because some were not able to assume full national responsibilities and obstructed the march of the movement. Therefore, a decision was made to dismiss Abu Salih and Abu Akram from the leadership pending other measures to be taken in light of any new developments.

Asked about the size of the movement today, Col Abu Musa did not wish to give accurate figures on the number of fighters in Lebanon. However, he cited Israel as saying that there are about 4,000 fighters in Al-Biqa'. Abu Musa did not claim they are all in the movement, but stressed that the movement is a major factor in the Lebanese arena. He added that not all forces are under arms; there is an armed political body held in reserve for combat when necessary.

He described the relationship with Prime Minister Rashid Karami as close and said there are close and good relations with Walid Junblatt, Nabih Birri, and all Lebanese national resistance factions, with whom the movement is continuously working for the sake of eliminating the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and developing future struggle to include all Palestinian lands in northern Palestine.

Finally, Abu Musa emphasized the movement's adherence to the Cairo agreement, considering it the basis, reference points, and solution to all Palestinian issues in the Lebanese arena. He added that talk about replacing this agreement with another one is premature. That has not been proposed.

WAFA Commentator on Al-Asad LE MONDE Remarks

GF110856 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Aug 84

[WAFA editor's commentary: "There Is No Contradiction Between the PLO's Policy and Syria's Declared Policy"]

[Text] On 1 August, the French newspaper *LE MONDE* published an interview with President Hafiz al-Asad in which he answered questions on Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. With his question on Abu 'Ammar the interviewer attempted to make President al-Asad adopt a personal and individualistic position in the conversation. President al-Asad did well to say that he does not like to express his opinion about other persons through the press. Then President al-Asad answered questions from a political point of view. He expressed his personal opinion on more than one point. We support him in some views, but in otherswe must disagree with him, whether these views are the result of wrong information or wrong judgement.

The president said that 'Arafat did harm to the Palestinian question and to Syria. We can only reject this description from a man such as President al-Asad. Although the Palestinian question is a question of the Arab nation, it is also the question of the people of Palestine who, by virtue of their experience, do not easily offer their allegiance to their leaders. The Arab masses do not forgive those who fail to answer the Palestinian question, let alone those who harm it. Brother Abu 'Ammar enjoys extensive popular support inside and outside the occupied homeland, throughout the Arab and Islamic homeland, and among the Third World nations, who perceive the meaning of injustice, enmity to colonialism, and freedom for those who resist it. This popular stance, which expresses respect and appreciation for Yasir 'Arafat throughout the world, is contrary to the allegation that Abu 'Ammar has harmed the Palestinian question, yet agrees with the opposite view.

This applies to the general stance. As for the essence, Yasir 'Arafat and his brothers have been leading the Palestinian struggle since 1965. Reflecting on the situation of the Palestinian question on 1 January 1965 and comparing it with the current situation, we can only say that the accomplishments made by 'Arafat's leadership have surpassed expectations and have annulled the Zionist-U.S. strategy, which aims to obliterate the Palestinian people, and close the file on the Palestinian question. When we say this we do not deny the Arab effort in the international arena, but we can say that prior to 1 January 1965 the Palestinian question was placed in closed files both in the Arab world and internationally. As for the issue of doing harm to Syria, this does not make sense. Abu 'Ammar and his brothers realize the importance of Syria the people, Syria the land, and Syria the basis for the Palestinian question. The leader of the march which has accomplished much for its people, and has given martyrs to the struggle, cannot harm Syria, because first, this contradicts the interests of the movement; secondly, it contradicts its conception; and third, it contradicts its affiliation and national characterization.

Let us for the sake of argument assume that some harm has beendone. Is not the standard of the relationship between Syria and the Palestinian revolution a constructive dialogue aimed at correcting mistakes away from reactions or government statements? This is the logical basis for struggle relations. If, since its formation, the Palestinian revolution had wanted to react to the harm inflicted upon it in the official Arab arena, it would have violated its own supreme interest and would have created numerous problems. However, the supreme interest necessitates patience until the harm is eliminated through understanding, mutual agreement, and uninterrupted dialogue.

President al-Asad said in the same interview that he cannot call the resistance which is distant from Palestine a resistance, and that the one who wants to resist should get closer to his homeland and the goal of his struggle. He asked: What can the resistance do several hundred kilometers away from Palestinian land other than being represented by a number of politicians and press officials? The general interest and the anxiety to restore normal relations with Syria make it incumbent on us to discuss this statement, confining ourselves to the text without going into anything else. The resistance exists where the people exist and its existence or nonexistence is governed by the existence or nonexistence of the struggle. A review of the reports, both published and broadcast, clearly shows — apart from the existing reality — that the people exist in the land of struggle and that the daily armed struggle does exist in the land of struggle inside the occupied homeland and in southern Lebanon. Such struggle does not come from just any source, nor does it take place casually. Hence, the prerequisites of struggle such as organization, men, arms, and money, are met according to the available resources in a manner that enables them to overcome — in one way or another — the closing of all Arab borders to the Palestinian resistance, including the Syrian borders.

This confused Arab situation, particularly as regards the military offensive option, forced the regular Palestinian military forces to stay away from the confrontation lines which are closed to them by the Arabs. This led to reliance upon Fedayeen action and on organized popular struggle through its leaderships in all arenas. Such a situation has nothing to do with the location of the supreme command so long as the communication between it and the masses continues to take place effectively through the leaderships of popular arenas. In addition to the burdens of the military struggle leadership, the Supreme Palestinian Command has before it the task of political and information leadership throughout the international arena. The centers of practical leadership in these areas of struggle are distributed amongmany Arab countries due to the Arab circumstances, which are extremely harsh on the Palestinian struggle.

President al-Asad said: 'Arafat and we are adopting very contradictory policies. This remark is surprising and baffling because we have not found an area of contradiction in the policy of the PLO, led by 'Arafat, and Syria's declared policy under Al-Asad. In the same interview, President al-Asad said he wanted a solution based on UN resolutions. Isn't this Yasir 'Arafat's stand? Syria and the PLO, represented by Yasir 'Arafat himself, agreed to the Fes summit resolutions. Syria and the PLO approved Brezhnev's initiative. Syria and the PLO, under Brother Abu 'Ammar, rejected the Camp David accord, and the autonomy under these accords. The PLO, led by 'Arafat, rejected the Reagan initiative in a PNC decision, and so did Syria through Syrian media and its party's stand. Syria and the PLO want Egypt to return to the Arab ranks after abandoning the Camp David policy and both of us are in contact with Egypt, through various means, for this purpose. The Syrian delegation's stand on this during the Islamic summit conference was more than clear: Syria agreed to Security Council Resolution 242 and Resolution 383, both of which the PLO did not approve. Nor is there any contradiction in these stands because for known reasons, it is similar to the Egyptian stand on the PLO under 'Abd an-Nasir.

Through all this, we see there is no contradiction between the declared stand, under Al-Asad, and the PLO, under Brother Yasir 'Arafat. There are differences which can quickly vanish through joint dialogue and coordination based on the same policy represented in the resolutions of the Fes summit and the PNC. Accordingly, we believe that it is Syria's responsibility to start a dialogue in this regard because the PLO leaders, 'Arafat and his brothers, have declared their readiness to do so more than once.

Al-Asad then said: We do not want to force our policy on 'Arafat. However, it is natural that we support those who hold our views. We welcome the first part of this remark. But what took place in Al-Biqa' and Tripoli gives support toanother dimension, which is that of dictating policy because imposing views through force is dictation and not cooperation or consultation or agreement or coordination. Also to say that we support those who hold our views means annulling democracy withinthe framework of Palestinian legitimacy and means ignoring the PNC as the legitimate representative and the supreme decisionmaker for the Palestinian people. If a difference arises, it can be settled among the responsible legitimate leaders. It cannot be settled by means of ensuing armed conflict, because this will not unify but will instead split and will (?dictate policy).

The leadership Brother Abu 'Ammar is heading has not dealt, for example, with the internal crisis which the Syrian Government witnesssed recently by supporting one party against the other, because it deemed that this would fuel the struggle. National and regional duty necessitated making efforts to settle the crisis to preserve Syria. Therefore, we agree with President al-Asad when he said that 'Arafat's policy is his own business and the business of the Palestinian organizations. But we wanted this to be applied according to the meaning of the words and not according to the policy which was adopted during the events in Al-Biqa' and Tripoli.

The Fatah Central Committee, including Abu 'Ammar, viewed Brother Abu al-Lutf's [Faruq Qaddumi] meeting with President al-Asad, which took place before the *LE MONDE* interview, as a beginning which will lead to understanding through constructive and joint dialogue. This conviction was announced in an official statement at that time.

Differences are not only allowed but go side by side with relations. Differences cannot remain unresolved if the goal is the same and intentions are common. Restoring normal Palestinian-Syrian relations is a goal for pan-Arab and regional interests and this will inevitably be achieved. The serious international respect for the PLO and Arab countries cannot be achieved through continued differences which serve the Zionist enemy and his aggressive designs and the U.S. Middle East policy, which is hostile to our issues and nation. It is high time that a successful Arab summit conference takes place. This necessitates obliterating the Syrian-Palestinian differences and removing the obstacles to the duties of the legitimate Palestinian insitutions, particularly the convocation of the PNC. We hope that this will all be realized very soon.

Baghdad PLO Radio on Syrian Minister's Remarks

JN102056 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1610 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, by comparing great claims and slogans with actual policies, actions, and practical stands, we can understand, comprehend, and clearly determine the extent and type of fraud that certain Arab regimes are practicing against the Palestine question and its political instrument, the PLO. Of course, it goes without saying that this fraud is only the natural outcome of those regimes' policies, which are both erroneous and linked to U.S. decisionmaking. But what is most ridiculous is that those regimes still persist with their policies of great claims and slogans, even though they have been exposed to a scandalous degree.

For example, everyone knows that the Syrian Golan front has been closed to Palestinian armed struggle for many years. The Syrian regime refuses to permit any Palestinian group to carry out its armed struggle against the Zionist enemy from the Golan front. In fact, the Syrian regime itself has avoided any tension on that front, even by way of a political maneuver, which requires a certain degree of tension on the frontline. The Syrian regime is doing that, but not on the Golan front. It is doing it on Lebanese territory. There are many political reasons for this, but this is neither the time nor the place to talk about them.

On the basis of this situation and policy, which is known to everyone, the Syrian defense minister has invited us to launch our military operations against the Zionist occupation from the Golan front. Let us suppose that the Syrian defense minister's call is sincere, and let us also suppose that the Syrian president was telling the truth when he said that he considers the Palestinian groups in Damascus to be the true resistance. Why is not the resistance in Damascus carrying out military operations against the Zionist enemy from the Golan front? Why is the Syrian minister inviting us in the first place, when the resistance already exists on his territory? Does the matter call for propaganda statements in the press, or for joint meetings, coordination and a specific action plan? Moreover, nobody understands how, from a security standpoint, a minister can announce that his country's border is open for launching military operations against the enemy.

The whole question is illogical. Still, let us suppose that the Syrian minister's call is sincere — although this time we would like to ignore the Syrian president's remark about the absence of Palestinians outside the boundaries of Damascus, because it does not even deserve to be discussed. We say to the Syrian minister that we are ready to return to Damascus in order to resume our armed struggle against Zionist occupation, the main common enemy of the Arab nation. We are ready to return to Damascus. In fact, we wish that Damascus would become the Hanoi of the Palestinian revolution.

But, minister, once again we say that such calls are not made in the media. This matter calls for discussing issues and certain important details, particularly Palestinian-Syrian relations and the differences you are escalating by every means. The discussion of these issues requires relations here and there, as well as positive indications away from the press, radio, and television in order to show that there is a sincere desire to discuss those issues. This is the clear and logical approach. Otherwise, calls in the media will only lack credibility and remain mere propaganda.

Baghdad Voice of PLO Warns of Syrian Pressure

JN131926 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Adherence to the Palestinian Aden agreement, its preservation, and the need to promote it are not the duty of only one of the Palestinian factions which signed it in Algiers in the middle of last month. Various Palestinian popular circles, both inside and outside the occupied homeland, consider the Aden agreement an important achievement as a means to overcome the current stage whose main feature is the escalating onslaught to liquidate the PLO and its fighting, revolutionary, legitimate leadership.

The Palestinian agreement was hailed by Palestinian circles as a great step foward. They asked its signatories to preserve and promote it so that it would form a firm basis for Palestinian reconciliation, cast the tool of the revolution, and realize its strategic aim. This would increase the momentum of the Palestinian freedom march and promote its revolutionary activities on all levels and thus guarantee final victory.

Therefore, preservation of the Aden agreement is the Palestinian people's demand, particularly in the main arena of struggle — the occupied homeland. Adherence to the Aden agreement is a supreme national duty at this stage. All its signatories should shoulder their responsibilities and bear the consequences of the agreement.

It goes without saying that adhering to the Aden agreement and its consequences must also be made known through the media. We are about to embark on a practical experiment to prove our credibility and preserve the agreement so that it can form a proper basis for a comprehensive national meeting. This meeting is stipulated in the Aden agreement, and it is hoped it will convene in Algiers on Friday. It is the expanded Palestinian meeting. Naturally, this expanded meeting enjoys ardent Palestinian support because it is an application of one of the Aden agreement articles.

We reaffirm that a commitment to the Aden agreement is not an end in itself but a clear expression of the credibility of the signatories to the agreement who wanted to preserve the PLO, its framework, and its legitimate institutions, and to promote it by building Palestinian national unity within the legitimate PLO framework on the basis of independent Palestinian decision-making and free Palestinian will. This point is very clear and very important.

The commitment to this agreement stems from a national rather than a political stand. There is no place for raising confusing slogans or retreating under political pretexts, that is, under the pretext of political differences.

In any event, the Aden agreement ended the open political differences which formed a pretext for not holding a Palestinian meeting. Despite the fact that these differences did not form real obstacles, they were used as a pretext by those who openly interfered in internal Palestinian affairs. These people fanned the intra-Palestinian fire and depicted it as a great, basic difference. In any event, nobody has ann excuse for retreating from the Aden agreement under Syrian pressure which is being brought to bear on certain Palestinian factions from those who signed the Aden agreement. The aim is to prevent the Palestinian unity march from being based on the Aden agreement framework. Our people will never accept this submission to pressure as a pretext for retreating from the national march.

Palestinians Urged To Expand Confrontation Area

JN131951 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] An indefinite strike is under way at the Nabulus central prison. The strike was announced by the brother detainees who are protesting the authorities' treatment and the poor conditions in the prison. The brother detainees announced they would continue their strike until the Zionist authorities respond to their demands for increased medical assistance, improved living conditions, and more visits. The Zionist authorities continue their feverish attempts to end the strike. They separated the members of the detainees committee among many prisons to split the strikers' ranks and end the strike .

Brothers, we are facing a battle challenge between our strugglers and the occupation authorities. This battle is currently raging in the Nabulus prisons of Al-Junayd and the central prison. This battle will succeed if it extends outside these prisons and is strengthened by parallel mass support on more than one level.

Our brothers inside these prisons need support in their battle. They want the arena of confrontation to expand in order to bring pressure on the authorities and force them to end their inhuman practices. Thus, our brother detainees will be given a new impetus that would allow them to continue their confrontation and steadfastness in their advanced positions.

We salute our detained brothers in the Nabulus prisons and greet all our detained brothers in all Zionist prisons and detention camps. We pledge to them that we will continue the revolution and the struggle together until victory.

PLO Official Condemns Attack on Hanoi Office

JN121840 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1740 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] 'Ali Fayyad, alias Abu Ziyad, the former PLO representative to Southeast Asian countries, has condemned the cowardly action against the head and members of the Palestinian mission in the Vietnamese capital, Hanoi, carried out by Yasir 'Arafat's group.

On 25 July the PLO office and the houses of its employees were surrounded and stormed. Some of the employees were shot at under the slogan of punishing rebels and asserting the power of 'Arafat's group.

At a news conference held today at the Palestinian Unified Information Department office in Damascus, in which Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, an employee at the PLO office in Hanoi, participated, Abu Ziyad called for adopting the necessary measures not only to tackle the problem and remove its bad effects, but also to prevent a repetition of this scandalous attack and guarantee minimum of protection for representatives and progressive and democratic individuals in the PLO office.

Abu Ziyad said: As representatives at foreign missions, we should struggle against deviation and maintain the PLO's institutions, which are considered national achievements of the Palestinian people and not of a certain person or organization. Abu Ziyad called on Palestinian organizations to firmly confront deviation, its symbols and tools, and to protect PLO institutions from destruction.

Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahaman, an employee at the PLO office in Hanoi, explained how he was exposed to blows and shots from the 'Arafat group, who asserted that 'Arafat himself had issued orders to assassinate the emplyees of the PLO office in Hanoi.

'Arafat Sends Letter of Support to ZANU

JN131719 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a letter of greetings to the members of the second ZANU congress, which is being held in Harare. Our correspondent says that Brother Abu 'Ammar paid tribute to the African people's struggle against colonialism, imperialism, Zionism, and racial discrimination.

He stressed the strong relations of the Palestinian people with the friendly people of Zimbabwe and the other peoples of Africa. He reaffirmed the PLO's support for the African freedom movements in both Namibia and South Africa.

In his letter Brother Abu 'Ammar affirmed the organic connection between the Zionist policy of aggression in occupied Palestine and the policy of racial discrimination in South Africa and Namibia, showing the similarity and cooperation between these two racist regimes, particularly in the nuclear field, which threatens the stability and security of the peoples of Africa.

In conclusion, Abu 'Ammar stressed the importance of promoting Arab-African cooperation and convening the second Arab-African summit because of its importance in serving the interests of both the Arab nations and the peoples of Africa.

Resistance Operations in South Lebanon Noted

JN101655 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] A Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistancegroup used automatic weapons and hand grenades yesterday to attack a Zionist military patrol on the road to Sarafand in occupied southern Lebanon. Several Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded in the attack. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the incident, but as usual he declined to reveal any losses. He said that his forces immediately surrounded the area, mounted a large-scale search campaign, and arrested a large number of citizens. However, our resistance men withdrew safely to their bases.

The day before yesterday, another resistance group set off a highly explosive charge while a Zionist military patrol was passing east of the heroic 'Ayn al-Hulwah Palestinian camp. The explosion destroyed a large Zionist military truck, killing or wounding its occupants. The Zionist military spokesman also admitted the incident, but as usual he refrained from revealing any losses. He said his forces surrounded the area, launched a large-scale search, and detained a large number of Palestinians and Lebanese. However, all of this was in vain.

Further Resistance Actions

JN131740 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] A Palestinian-Lebanese resistance groupdetonated a remotely controlled explosive charge last night when a Zionist patrol was in the (Khatt as-Sikkah) area in Sidon, southern Lebanon. Several Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded. A Zionist spokesman admitted the operation but, as always, declined to reveal Zionist losses. He said his forces besieged the area, instituted a large-scale search campaign, and arrested a large number of people in an attempt to arrest the resistance men, who withdrew safely to their bases.

At noon yesterday another resistance group attacked a military position belonging to the agent militias, the so-called army of southern Lebanon, in 'Abra, east of Sidon, using machine guns and rockets. Many agent elements were either killed or wounded. The Zionist military spokesman also admitted the operation but declined to reveal losses. He said his forces and the agent militias combed the area and launched a large-scale search campaign in a vain attempt to arrest the resistance men.

The Palestinian-Lebanese resistance men executed two agents belonging to the agent army of southern Lebanon in 'Antun, southern Lebanon, the day before yesterday.

UAE's Al-'Utaybah Views Oil Market, Prices

PM131203 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 9 Aug 84 pp 1,5

[Report on interview with UAE Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah by *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Gulf Bureau: "OPEC Will Resist Pressures and Maintain Prices Structure" — date and pace not given]

[Text] Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources and chairman of the OPEC Followup Committee, strongly attacked the oil companies trying to cancel their contracts with some OPEC member states, warning them that OPEC will not stand idly by in the face of any pressures. In an exclusive statement to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* the minister said that these companies have a black history with OPEC and that if they resort to any measure OPEC will resist them strongly. Dr al-'Utaybah, one of the OPEC's most prominent ministers, also condemned the Soviet Union's step to reduce its oil prices by $1.5 per barrel, describing this step as having negatively affected the market psychology.

The minister praised the Arab Republic of Egypt and the North Sea oil producers, Britain and Norway, for their honorable stand in refusing to succumb to pressures to reduce their oil prices during the market crisis of the past 2 week, when the spot price dropped by $3.5 per barrel. Dr al-'Utaybah said that the market is currently passing through an exceptional and critical situation resulting from a number of factors, most important of which is supply and demand resulting from an increase in the quantities offered in excess of market demand during the second and third quarters of this year, because of the summer season and seasonal variations in the oil market.

He said that there are a number of factors that have affected and are still affecting the market, most important of which is the market psychology factor, because the situation is so sensitive that it is positively or negatively affected by the slightest movement. The tanker war in the Gulf has also seriously affected the market's shaken psychology. A month ago when the tanker war escalated there was some kind of rush to buy more oil, for fear of the war's expanding and affecting freedom of navigation in the Gulf. This wave of demand began to disappear when the war conditions began returning to their previous state and all the Gulf countries went back to producing at their normal rates.

The arrival of these large quantities of oil at the refineries and in consumer markets naturally had a negative effect on the market after 5 or 6 weeks. Dr al-'Utaybah said: We in OPEC are well aware of these conditions and we were not surprised by what happened, particularly a week ago when the market passed through conditions similar to those we experienced at the London meeting last year, when tendentious sources began to advocate the need to reduce prices and rumors began circulating about the collapse of the market. It was thought then that OPEC would not be able to withstand this dishonest and fabricated campaign.

The minister said: As far as we are concerned we will not be deceived by a situation like this, because we know the secrets of the market and what goes on in it. We have seen how spot market prices dropped $3.5 below OPEC's official price. Pressures began to be increasingly applied against the weak links inside and outside OPEC. The Soviet Union's reduction of its prices by $1.5 per barrel had a negative effect on the market psychology.

The minister said: We must warn those countries and stress to them that OPEC cannot stand idly by in the face of pressures that might threaten the price structure.

The minister stressed in this regard that OPEC can do a great deal to put things right in the oil market. Even if the situation may call for reducing the production ceiling below 17.5 million barrels per day, OPEC will not hesitate to do so.

In a reference to the idea that some rich countries within OPEC could make certain concessions in favor of the other countries, the minister said: Nevertheless, and despite all the financial problems we are facing as a result of production quotas which do not meet our development requirements, we are resilient enough to accept even smaller quotas than the present ones if this serves our peoples, the world's interest in general, and the world economy as a whole.

The minister stressed OPEC's determination to defend itself and to help countries that come under pressure. He said: These countrieswill not stand alone in the face of biased campaigns that aim at negatively affecting OPEC's unity and the oil market and, consequently, threatening the economies of the producing countries and other Third World countries.

Asked about the future activities of the Followup Committee, which includes the oil ministers of Venezuela, Algeria, and Indonesia, the minister said: We will continue to watch the market. The Followup Committee will watch the market even more closely and will coordinate with the member states with a view to taking all the necessary steps to control the market and steer the ship to safety. Here I must draw the attention of certain companies that may try to exploit these conditions to bring pressure to bear on this or that country by reneging on contracts with the producing countries. We know those companies, and some of them have a black history with us. If they resort to any measures OPEC will resist them, because we are confident that our resistance and steadfastness in the face of tendentious campaigns is in the interest not of one single OPEC country but of the peoples of all OPEC countries, the whole world, and the world economy.

The minister added: I would like to warn those who are seeking to put OPEC in the same position as before the London meeting in March last year and reiterate what some of my colleagues have said: That it is those companies that will suffer first in the event of a collapse in the market. We in OPEC have agreed to be the major producer and the barrier that resists the winds and currents that want to destroy the world economy in quest of transient and selfish benefits.

The minister said that his talks with the OPEC delegation headed by Libyan Secretary of the General People's Committee for Petroleum Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur, the current OPEC chairman, and Indonesian minister of mining and Energy Dr Subroto, dealt with all these subjects.

With regard to the mission which Dr al-'Utaybah will lead and which began its tour yesterday, he said that the tour will include Tehran, Kuwait, Baghdad, At-Ta'if, Doha, Djakarta, and Tripoli (Libya). The minister said that the tour could last a week.

Concluding his statement to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, he expressed the belief that the committee will find every cooperation from the heads of state of those countries, because we have no doubt about their support for OPEC and their understanding of the conditions through which the market is passing.

Algerian Minister Stresses Effective OPEC Role

JN121806 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Ali Hashim dispatch from Kuwait]

[Excerpt] In a statement to Radio Monte Carlo, Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries, said that he does not rule out an OPEC ministerial conference being held if necessary. Nabi denied that OPEC's role has recently been shrinking in comparison to that of the non-OPEC oil-producing states. He said these states number no more than five and do not produce more than 4-5 million barrels per day, whereas the OPEC states are producing 17.5 barrels per day. Nabi said that it is neither possible nor justified for OPEC alone to continue to pay a heavy price in defending oil prices.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Defense, Foreign Ministers To Meet in Abha

LD131532 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1153 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 13 Aug (SPA) — The GCC Ministers of defense and foreign affairs will hold a joint meeting on 23 Dhu al-Hijjah, equivalent to 18 September in the city of Abha, and will be immediately followed by the meetings of the 12th session of the Ministerial Council.

KUWAIT

3-Man OPEC Ministerial Committee Arrives

LD110940 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Aug, (KUNA) An OPEC three-man ministerial committee led by the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources in the United Arab Emirates, Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, arrived here today to discuss the latest developments in the oil market as part of a tour of seven OPEC member countries. The committee, which includes Algerian Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi and the Venezuelan Minister of Energy and Mines Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, was welcomed on arrival by the minister of defense and acting oil minister and finance minister, Shaykh Salim Sabah as-Salim as-Sabah.

Official sources told KUNA that the committee is to meet the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, and a number of officials, among them Shaykh Salim. The visit follows a similar one to Iran. The committee is also to visit Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iraq, Libya, and Indonesia.

Amir Receives OPEC Delegation

LD111246 Kuwait KUNA in English 1047 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 11 (KUNA) — The amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah received in audience Saturday the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) delegation. The delegates grouped the oil and mineral resources minister of the United Arab Emirates, Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, the Algerian and Venezuelan energy ministers, Belkacem Nabi and Arturo Hernandez Grisanti on the occasion of their visit to the country. The meeting was attended by Defence and Acting Oil and Finance Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah.

Deputy Premier Receives PLO Official

LD111213 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0944 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Aug (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and minister of information, today received Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, member of the PLO Executive Committee and information official, who arrived here yesterday. The meeting was attended by Fatah Central Committee member Salim az-Za'nun, and the director of the PLO office in Kuwait, 'Awni Battash.

Eritrean Leaders To Explain Latest Developments

LD131103 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1021 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Aug (KUNA) — The Eritrean Liberation Front Bureau here today issued a press statement stating that an Eritrean delegation composed of leaders of the three Eritrean factions will arrive in Kuwait tomorrow. The three factions have recently agreed on establishing a united organization and a united liberation army on the Eritrean arena.

The delegation is composed of the chairman of the Executive Committee and Central Council of the People's Liberation Forces, Osman Saleh Sabeh; chairman of the Executive Committee and Revolutionary Council of the Eritrean Liberation Front, Abdallah Idris; chairman of the Executive Bureau and Revolutionary Committee, Abd al-Qadir Gaylani.

The statement said that the delegation will meet officials here to explain the latest development on the Eritrean arena and the neighboring region. The delegation has visited the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Iraq as part of a tour of Arab countries.

Minister on GCC Security Agreement, Visit Permits

GF131530 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 12 Aug 84 p 3

[Interview with Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad as-Sabah by *AS-SIYASAH* correspondent Sayyid 'Uthman — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Sayyid 'Uthman] Is there a new formula for the articles of the security agreement among the GCC countries and if so, when will this agreement, which has a great security significance, be signed?

[Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad as-Sabah] The security agreement is still being studied. It will be endorsed once the studies which are being carried out by the GCC member countries are finished.

['Uthman] Is the issuing of visit permits continuing normally or are there new measures and conditions?

[As-Sabah] The ministry has not stopped issuing visit permits, no objection certificates, and permits for family heads, but it has reorganized the bases upon which visit permits are issued, within the framework of the comprehensive plan to restudy and evaluate the country's security situation. Kuwait is an open country and its doors are open wide to all honorable people from all nationalities who want to work honorably, live among us in peace, and who respect our customs, traditions, and values. We have no place for those who are wicked and try to disturb the security or harm the safety of the citizens.

Paper Warns Against West's Protection of Red Sea

LD131121 Kuwait KUNA in English 1031 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 13 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti daily *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* warned of foreign intervention in the Red Sea under the pretext of sweeping the explosive mines found in the area and protecting navigation. The paper said the group which formed the Multi-National Peacekeeping Force in Lebanon is the same one which came now to the area to protect navigation in the Red Sea and the Suez Canal from the explosive mines. "Why does the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), with the leadership of the U.S., attempt to replace the United Nations and behave as master of the world?" the newspaper asked.

The daily expressed fear that the "mines-planting issue is to remain a chronic problem because it will lead to the conclusion that the armed pesence of the West is a must to protect and control navigation" in the region. "The Multi-National Forces came to protect their interest," the paper argued.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM clarified that "although the issue is an Arab regional problem, it is also of an international nature and concerns all countries, therefore we (the Arabs) should be careful not to fall in the trap and let them (foreign powers) succeed with the explosive mines game." On the other hand, the paper called on the United Nations Security Council to discuss the issue and make the UN supervise the safety of navigation in the area, adding, "The Soviet Union will not remain idle while NATO vessels crowd the sea."

Briefs

Envoy to Somalia — In the official newspaper *AL-KUWAIT* a decree was published appointing the Kuwaiti ambassador to the Somali Democratic Republic, ‘Abd al-‘Aziz Muhammad ar-Rashid, in addition to his work as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United Republic of Tanzania. [Text] [Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Aug 84 LD]

SAUDI ARABIA

U.S. Helicopters, French Minesweepers Arrive

LD131245 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] A responsible source in the Ministry of Defense and Aviation stated that three helicopters from the United States and two minesweepers from France will arrive in the Kingdom at the invitation of the Ministry of Defense and Aviation to participate in discovering any foreign bodies and removing them. This is a participation by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in securing the international navigation in the Red Sea.

King Fahd Receives OPEC Delegation

LD131526 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1125 GMT 13 Jul 84

[Text] Jidda, 13 Aug (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz this afternoon at the royal office here received the OPEC delegation led by UAE Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Dr Mani‘ Sa‘id al-‘Utaybah.

The meeting was attended by Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ahmad Zaki Yamani.

OPEC Delegation Departs

LD131546 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1425 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda 13 Aug (SPA) — The OPEC delegation headed by the UAE Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Dr Mani‘ Sa‘id al-‘Utaybah, left Jidda this afternoon after a 2-day visit to the Kingdom within its tour of a number of OPEC countries. The delegation, which includes the ministers of petroleum from Algeria and Venezuela, was seen of by the minister of petroleum and mineral resources and other ministry officials.

Defense Minister Meets U.S. Senator

LD131638 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1135 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Riyadh 13 Aug (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz, second deputy premier, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, met in his office at noon today with U.S. Senator Arlen Specter and the delegation accompanying him. At this meeting, which was attended by U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom Walter Leon Cutler, a number of issues of mutual interest to the countries were discussed.

UAE

OPEC Delegation Returns to Abu Dhabi

GF112000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1803 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Aug (WAKH) — The OPEC delegation which is led by Dr Mani‘ ibn Sa‘id al-‘Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, returned to Abu Dhabi from Kuwait this evening following a brief visit within the context of a tour of a number of the member states of OPEC. During its visit to Kuwait, the delegation held talks with the Kuwaiti officials on the international petroleum situation and the means to maintain the stability of the market and OPEC's official prices. The delegation, which also includes the petroleum ministers of Algeria and Venezuela, is expected to leave Abu Dhabi for Qatar tomorrow morning to hold talks with the senior Qatari officials on the current situation of the oil market.

PDRY

Official Receives USSR Foreign Ministry Official

GF131956 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Brother ‘Abd al-Ghani ‘Abd al-Qadir, member of the YSP Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, met with Comrade (?Baryshev), deputy chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who is currently visiting our country to exchange views and opinions on a number of developments on the Arab and international levels and to coordinate the two friendly countries' stances. Comrade (?Baryshev), who arrived in Aden yesterday leading a Soviet Foreign Ministry delegation, held consultations with Foreign Ministry officials on the coordination of the two countries' stances toward developments and issues dealing with relations between the two friendly countries and peoples.

Briefs

New Kuwaiti, Czechoslovak Envoys -- Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received today at the Secretariat of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council the credentials of Brother 'Ali 'Abd ar-Razaq Yusuf, Kuwaiti ambassador to our country. During the meeting, bilateral relations and means of promoting them were reviewed. He also received the credentials of Comrade Jan Martinek, Czechoslovak ambassador. During the meeting, the friendly cooperative relations between the two countries were reviewed. [Excerpt] [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Aug 84 GF]

AFP: Floating Mines Found in Red Sea

NC141029 Paris AFP in English 0957 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Excerpt] London, Aug 14 (AFP) — Three floating mines have been found in separate spots in the Red Sea, Lloyd's of London said today. Lloyd's said the mines were located in the southern half of the Red Sea, off the coasts of North Yemen and Sudan and between Sudan and Saudi Arabia. Sixteen ships have been damaged since last month by explosives planted in the Red Sea and Gulf of Suez.

A 15-member U.S. navy team has been assisting Egypt's search for the mines for the past two weeks and will soon be joined by mine-hunters from Britain and France, expected in port said today. U.S. mine-sweeping helicopters are also due to arrive.

Mubarak Suspects Libya

NC131230 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1203 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 13 Aug (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has stated the following: We suspect that Libya is involved in the explosions that have taken place in the Red Sea. But, as for Iran, I hope we will not find anything against it. I also hope that Iran has not been involved in such aggressive acts against navigation in the Red Sea, which is an international waterway.

This came in an answer to a question by one of the foreign correspondents regarding the denials by Libya and Iran of being responsible for the explosions in the Red Sea. Asked about Egypt's ability to determine the source of these mines, President Husni Mubarak said: We have not been able to do so thus far. However, when we find a mine, we will be able to determine where it was manufactured.

Answering another question on the states which will survey the area to locate the mines in it, the President said: They are the United States, Britain, France, and Italy. Other states asked to participate in the operation. However, I do not believe we need all these forces, but we thank them for their offer. We want to be sure that our territorial waters do not constitute a danger to navigation.

President Husni Mubarak answered a question on whether the participating forces will operate only in Egypt's territorial waters. He said the search and clearing operation will be carried out in our territorial waters in the Red Sea.

His Excellency was asked about the rest of the Red Sea. The president said: This is the responsibility of the littoral states. I believe that Saudi Arabia has asked for France's assistance. Sudan, which has the Port Sudan on the Red Sea, might ask assistance from the countries participating with and helping us in clearing the territorial waters. There are other countries which have planned on requesting assistance regarding the Bab el-Mandeb.

Answering a question on the role of the Islamic Jihad organization in these explosions — particularly after this organization had contacted the AGENCE FRANCE PRESS office in Beirut and informed it that neither Libya nor Iran had any connection with the mine explosions and that the organization's frogmen carried out this act from Egyptian territories — President Mubarak said: They can say what they like but we only believe what we are convinced of.

Asked how the mining took place his excellency answered: I believe that the Libyans carried out this action but we are still now waiting to discover a mine to confirm our suspicions.

Answering a question on the belief by some that Egypt does not want to depend entirely on the United States for political reasons, President Mubarak said: Those who wish to create problems between Egypt and the United States will not succeed. We asked for aid from the United States first because the Americans have the most up-to-date equipment in the world. We asked for aid from Britain because we are friends and the same goes for France. Italy has offered help.

President Mubarak confirmed that orders have been issued to search suspicious ships. The president was asked: What if you find something?

He answered: This depends on what this something is.

His excellency was further asked: What If you find mines, for example?

He answered: We will take all the necessary measures.

He was then asked: What are these measures?

He answered: I will not disclose them.

Minesweeping Committee Formed

NC131416 Paris AFP in English 1303 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, Aug 13 (AFP) — British sources today said that Egypt, the United States, and Britain had agreed to form a committee to coordinate mine-sweeping efforts in the Gulf of Suez, with the first British mine-hunters due to arrive tomorrow. The sources said four 440-tonne mine hunters would reach Port Sa'id at the entrance to the Suez Canal by late tomorrow and would proceed down the canal towards the port of Al-Hudaydah where they will be based.

The committee for the Gulf of Suez is to meet once a day but each nation's units would remain under national command, the sources said. They said the committee was "not a multinational force." The United States has a 15-man team and a oceanographic ship in the Suez Gulf. Four mine-sweeping helicopters are on their way from the U.S. base in Rota, Spain, where they arrived last week from Norfolk, Virginia. France has four mine-hunters headed for the Gulf of Suez.

Meanwhile, authoritative Italian sources said Italy would respond next week to Egypt's request that it join the mine-sweeping operations. The Italian Government was reported to be awaiting the advice of the Parliament's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committees which are due to meet next Tuesday to hear Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini and Foreign Minister

Giulio Andreotti. Analysts said Italy was expected to agree to Egypt's request. However, Mr Spadolini, in a statement carried by the press today, said Italy was in favor of "technical collaboration" under Italian control but firmly ruled out any "participation in a new multinational force."

Official Assures Canal Safe

NC141016 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 14 Aug (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Suez Canal Authority Director engineer 'Adil 'Izzat at Al-'Urubah Palace at noon today. After the meeting 'Izzat said that he affirms to the world that the approaches and branches of the Suez Canal as well as its waiting areas are safe, and that he assures the world that navigation in the canal is regular and has not stopped for 1 minute.

'Izzat said that today and before midnight five British vessels are expected to arrive in the canal. These include four minesweepers and a support ship. He said tomorrow, Wednesday morning, two French and one U.S. ship are expected to arrive in the canal. He affirmed that the world has refused to consider the canal and the Red Sea a dangerous navigational area, and emphasized that the canal is sound.

Engineer 'Adil 'Izzat said that he outlined to the president the situation in the Suez Canal and affirmed to him that the canal is clear of explosives and mines and that navigation is normal. He noted that the world refuses to declare the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez as danger areas. He said that the Swedish maritime chamber refused to regard the Red Sea and Gulf of Suez as a danger area and that the insurance on ships passing through the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez has not been increased.

The Suez Canal Authority chairman said that the world now realizes the scope of this operation, which is harmful to the whole world and is harmful to Iran and Libya as well as to those countries using the Suez Canal. He said that the explosions were not grave but were harmful and must be stopped. The Suez Canal authority's chairman expressed thanks for foreign participation in purging the Red Sea. He said We convey our thanks for this participation although nothing has occurred within the Suez Canal and at the entrances to the canal which are of prime concern to us.

He added: This is not the first time that the world has joined us in this respect. The United States, Britain, France, and Italy participated in 1975 in clearing the canal after it was closed for 8 years. He noted that this participation reflects the interest of the whole world in the Suez Canal as an economic vein linking the East with the West.

Asked whether mines have been discovered in the Red Sea or the shipping lanes of the Gulf of Suez, the chairman of the Canal Authority said: I would like to differentiate between mines and the charges which exploded. A mine is an object which explodes near the body of a ship causing great damage. The ship will then take on water and sink. This did not happen in the explosions that occurred. No grave incidents occurred. No ships sank and no casualties occurred. All these incidents occurred in areas far from the Suez Canal. Nothing has happened in the Suez Canal or in areas nearby.

Asked whether the number of ships passing through the canal has decreased because of the Red Sea explosions, the chairman of the Suez Canal Authority explained that a decrease has been expected but it has been very slight. He mentioned that 62 ships crossed the canal today, including 2 supertankers.

Asked about the measures that will be taken against the ships of some states around which there is suspicion, the chairman of the Suez Canal Authority said: We do not take measures against anyone. We secure the Suez Canal as an international waterway for all ships and not only for our ships. He said that if a ship is suspected of carrying dangerous material, Egypt has the right to inspect the ship.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on Mining Culprits

NC130506 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2205 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 13 Aug (MENA) — The newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* asserts that those who want to shake stability in the Gulf area and the Arab region must realize that Egypt has been and will always remain above recriminations and will go ahead in ensuring navigation in its territorial waters and in playing its positive role to establish peace in the region. In its Tuesday editorial, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* points out that the aggressive countries have not been deterred by the previous and current events both in Africa and in the Gulf. They have perpetrated rash actions in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez, which have only led to international denunciation and further criticism of their regimes.

AL-JUMHURIYAH further says it is strange that these countries have begun to launch a campaign against summoning minesweepers from Western countries to participate in removing their crimes. They are trying to forget that the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez are vital waterways for navigation in the whole world and not for one or a group of countries. They, however, must realize that this is the last lesson.

Mubarak, Representative Gray Discuss Trade, Mines

NC131137 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0915 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 13 Aug (MENA) — During his meeting today with the U.S. businessmen delegation led by William Gray, U.S. representative and vice chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak discussed the possibility of increasing the volume of trade between Egypt and the United States, and the relations between the two countries. This was stated by Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade, while commenting on the meeting. He added that the two sides also discussed the possibility of setting up joint projects, particularly with the State of Pennsylvania, in the fields of spinning, textiles, and shoes which all require advanced technology, particularly in the areas of metallurgy and electronics.

William Gray said that the United States welcomes Egypt's request to assist it in defusing the mines in the Red Sea, an important navigation artery that does not concern Egypt alone, but also many states as well. He added that any threats to the Red Sea navigation constitue a threat to stability in the region and the world. Gray said that thus far there have been no signs incriminating this or that state, adding that investigations are continuing to unveil the perpetrators. He pointed out that President Mubarak told him that a search is continuing to find out how much of the Red Sea has been mined and who is involved in the mining.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS Interviews Foreign Minister

PM131003 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 8 Aug 84 p 13

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid by Charles Saint-Prot — date and place not given]

[Excerpt] *LE QUOTIDIEN*: Sir, what is Egypt's position on the Gulf war which is threatening the stability of the Near East?

'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid: Egypt is following a very clear principle: It cannot tolerate that Iraq, an Arab country, should have its territorial integrity and national independence attacked. That is why we have given our support to our Iraqi brothers and are determined to continue that aid. In addition there is no doubt that Iran is responsible for the continuation of the war and is persisting in posing unacceptable conditions for starting preliminary negotiations. Tehran is rejecting attempts at mediation (by the United Nations, the nonaligned countries, the Islamic Conference) whereas it must be stressed that Baghdad has accepted all the UN resolutions calling for a cease-fire. This pointless war which is a threat to the region's peace and stability must end and the Western countries must strive to end it rather than making things worse by supplying arms to Tehran. Egypt, for its part, will try and revive an initiative within the Nonaligned Movement, in liaison with India and Yugoslavia.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Are the Israeli election results likely to alter your relations with Israel?

'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid: We have no preference and are prepared to have a dialogue with any Israeli Government which accepts our conditions.

LE QUOTIDIEN: What conditions have you posed for the resumption of diplomatic relations at ambassador level with Israel?

'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid: To be precise, I must point out that Egypt recalled its ambassador after the Israeli aggression in Lebanon during the summer of 1982 and the massacres of Sabra and Shatila which caused considerable anger among the Egyptian people. We pose three conditions for the resumption of relations at ambassador level — the total and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli Army from Southern Lebanon; substantial progress toward settling the Palestinian question; the fate of the Taba enclave (in Sinai) which is still occupied by the Israelis.

As regards Lebanon, Israel made a fatal mistake in invading that Arab country. It is now paying the price of that since it is becoming more bogged down every day and it is encountering highly organized resistance. The Israelis must understand that they cannot solve the region's problems with arms and that the systematic use of force merely complicates the situation and causes intolerable human destruction and tragedies. Aside from this Egypt's attitude is clear. It can be summed up in the slogan: "Lebanon for the Lebanese." In other words respect for that country's unity, independence, and sovereignty.

LE QUOTIDIEN: This implies the withdrawal of the Syrians after the Israelis' departure...

'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid: We understand that Syria has a strategic interest in Lebanon, but it must help its small neighbor to overcome the crisis. In this respect there has been reason to welcome a positive evolution in Damascus over the past few weeks.

LE QUOTIDIEN: The second condition you are posing for Israel is negotiations on the Palestinian problem. How do you view such negotiations?

'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid: Egypt has always advocated a just solution to the Palestinian problem because there cannot be a comprehensive and lasting peace with recognition of the Palestinian people's rights. On this point the Israeli interpretation of the Camp David agreements is negative and unacceptable and the Israeli position must change. Otherwise the whole world will have to note that it is Israel which does not want peace.

LE QUOTIDIEN: But if there are negotiations on the Palestinian question, surely the PLO's presence is desirable?

'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid: Egypt regards the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole representative and thinks there can be no negotiations without the PLO. That is why our country together with France supported the July 1982 initiative in the UN Security Council. I stress that this plan makes provision for mutual and simultaneous recognition by the Israelis and Palestinians and negotiations involving all sides.

LE QUOTIDIEN: But the Franco-Egyptian initiative has not been followed up...

'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid: It is true that it encountered opposition from one permanent member of the Security Council (the United States). But it remains a basis for progress and Paris and Cairo must make joint efforts to change the U.S. position to set negotiations in motion.

Mubarak Receives Iraq's Tariq 'Aziz

JN131223 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received in Cairo today Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The meeting was attended by Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. During the meeting, which was held in an atmosphere of deep understanding and amity, the two sides exchanged viewpoints on the current situation in the Arab region, the Iraqi-Iranian war, and relations between Iraq and Egypt and ways of promoting them in all fields.

Al-Majid, 'Aziz Begin Talks

NC131437 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Talks began this afternoon between Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister. The talks dealt with developments in the region and bilateral relations. Tariq 'Aziz stated that the talks were constructive and that both sides completed discussing the subjects discussed with President Husni Mubarak. He said relations between Egypt and Iraq are natural ones. Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense minister, will receive Tariq 'Aziz tomorrow before the latter's departure at the conclusion of his 3-day visit to Cairo.

OPEC Delegation Stops Over in Cairo

NC131954 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1920 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 13 Aug (MENA) — An OPEC committee, led by UAE Petroleum Minister Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, stopped at Cairo Airport this evening en route from Jidda to Turkey. The committee, which includes the Algerian and Venezuelan oil ministers, was received by Petroleum Minister 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil. A 1-hour meeting was held at the airport. The committee is currently touring oil-producing countries to discuss the current situation in the international oil market.

Following the meeting, Dr al-'Utaybah said the committee came to Cairo because of the importance of coordination between OPEC and Egypt. He said: We respect and appreciate Egypt's stand, which did not submit to pressures aimed at harming the rights of the oil-producing countries. Al-'Utaybah added: We conveyed to engineer Qandil greetings from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan for President Husni Mubarak. We explained OPEC's policy and the steps it will take to defend the oil market.

Commenting on Dr al-'Utaybah's statement, Petroleum Minister Qandil said Egypt welcomes coordination with OPEC member-states. This coordination should have started a long time ago, he said. He stressed the need for continued dialogue between the oil-producing countries, whether or not they are OPEC members, and for action to maintain oil prices. He added that this serves the interests of all oil-producing countries and strengthens their economies.

Regarding Egypt's recent decision to fix its oil prices, Qandil said the decision by the Petroleum Ministry to fix the prices of Egyptian oil during August stopped the slide in oil prices on international markets.

'Ali Meeting With Turkey's Yavuzturk Reported

NC131320 Cairo MENA in English 1145 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, August 13 (MENA) — Premier Kamal Hasan 'Ali today received Turkish Defence Minister Zeki Yavuzturk. The Turkish minister had arrived here on August 7 for a week long visit to Egypt at the invitation of Minister of Defence and Military Production Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah.

Reportage on Ghali Visit to Greece

For MENA and Athens coverage of the visit to Greece by Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, including his talks with Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs Ioannis Kharalambopoulos and his meeting with President Constantine Karamanlis, see the Greece section of the 13 August Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Angolan Minister Concludes Visit to Cairo

NC120721 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0709 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Aug (MENA) — Evaristo Domingos, Angolan minister of agriculture and provincial coordination and member of the ruling Workers' Party Political Bureau, left Cairo today at the end of a 1-week visit to Egypt at the invitation of Agricultural Minister Dr Yusuf Wali.

Armed Forces Chief Returns From Visit to U.S.

NC121404 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Aug (MENA) — Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, Armed Forces chief of staff, returned to Cairo from the United States this afternoon following a 1-week visit during which he held talks with officials at the Pentagon on strengthening relations between Egypt and the United States.

Speaker al-Mahjub Returns From U.S. Visit

NC121402 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Aug (MENA) — People's Assembly Speaker Rif'at al-Mahjub returned to Cairo from the United States following a 2-week visit.

Mubarak Congratulates Husayn on Anniversary

NC101128 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 10 Aug (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak sent the following congratulatory cable to King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the anniversary of his ascension to the throne:

It gives me utmost happiness to send to Your Majesty, on the anniversary of your ascension to the throne, sincerest heartfelt congratulations coupled with best wishes for good health and happiness for you. I hope the fraternal Jordanian people will achieve all their aspirations for progress, advancement and prosperity under your wise leadership. With my highest esteem and fraternal appreciation.

Ash-Sharif Views Cabinet Discussions

NC131135 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 13 Aug (MENA) — Information Minister Safwat ash-Sharif said that during the Cabinet meeting, which ended late last night, there was a discussion of the security situation in the Red Sea. Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense minister, briefed the Cabinet on various aspects of Egypt's national security and the way they relate to the area's affairs.

Ash-Sharif added that Abu Ghazalah explained the measures taken in response to new developments and talked about the possible culprits of the uncivilized actions that have taken place [in the Red Sea] which departs from every norm in foreign affairs. Abu Ghazalah expounded on the measures taken by the Egyptian Armed Forces to safeguard the Gulf of Suez, the Suez Canal, and Egypt's territorial waters. Abu Ghazalah also laid out the Armed Forces' plans for coordination with those countries which favorably responded to Egypt's call for participation in the search for explosives.

AL-AKHBAR: Israeli Leaders Have One Goal

NC140556 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0425 GMT 14 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the heading "The So-Called Differences in Israel and the Sole Goal," *AL-AKHBAR* editorially says: Political circles in Israel are trying to mislead Israeli and world public opinion into believing that political differences between the two main parties, namely, the Likud bloc under Yitzhaq Shamir and the Labor Party under Shim'on Peres, are the cause of the ministerial crisis and the main factor behind the failure of both parties to agree on forming a national unity government.

These circles are underlining the fact that the problems of the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and the increasing number of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories are the reasons for the worsening of the crisis and the continuation of the closed meetings between the leaders of the two parties.

However, the truth is completely different: The principal and basic reason for the crisis is the struggle by Shamir and Peres for leadership [of the country] because each one of them wants to be the premier.

AL-AKHBAR adds: What has taken place is only a maneuver by both of them to win the post in the end; the political differences between them are extremely simple and are only differences over tactics.

The goal is one, namely, Israeli expansion through the permanent pretext of Israel's security.

Briefs

New Australian Envoy — Cairo, 11 Aug (MENA) — New Australian Ambassador to Egypt Kenneth Henry Rogers arrived in Cairo this afternoon to succeed Ambassador Frank Murray, who has been transferred to another position in the Australian Foreign Ministry. [Excerpt][Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 11 Aug 84 NC]

Communique 1,556 on 12-13 Aug Operations

JN131614 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,556 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 13 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Iraq's brave men are continuing their valiant fighting against the forces of the spiteful, suspect Khomeyniite clique. The results of activities for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units opened fire on a group of enemy troops opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing two, wounding others, and destroying one infantry position.

2. Our forward units pounded several enemy positions and artillery emplacements in the operational area east of Basra, scoring effective hits, starting fires, and destroying two hardware stockpiles and one observation post.

3. One of our forward units fired on an enemy troop concentration opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing one, wounding others, and destroying two personnel positions and one hardware stockpile.

4. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. This morning and at noon today, the criminal enemy shelled Basra suburbs with heavy artillery. The savage enemy shelling demolished one house.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 August 1984

KUNA: Lloyd's Cannot Confirm Battle Claims

LD131220 Kuwait KUNA in English 1131 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] London, Aug 13 (KUNA) — Lloyd's shipping casualty department said Monday it still had no independent confirmation of Iraqi claims to have destroyed five ships during a battle in the Gulf on Saturday.

A spokesman said the world's leading authority on shipping damage had seen press reports of the Iraqi claims but had received no confirmations of the battle from its own agents.

Iraq claims on Saturday that it had left five "large naval targets" in flames after a two-hour naval battle near the entrance to the Khowr-e Musa creek, the scene of frequent engagements in recent months.

It also said its forces had shot down three Iranian F-14 jet fighters which had been protecting an "enemy naval convoy."

Iraq said the vessels were heading towards the northern port of Bandar Khomeyni, the site of a large petrochemical complex.

Eritrean Official Arrives in Baghdad 13 Aug

JN131259 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Aug (INA) — 'Abdallah Idriss, Eritrean Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council chairman, arrived in Baghdad today on a visit to Iraq.

Idriss will join the unified Eritrean delegation which arrived in Baghdad last week.

Briefs

YAR Ambassador Bids Farewell — Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim received this morning YAR Ambassador Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Fusayil at the end of his term of office as the YAR ambassador to Iraq. [Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Aug 84 JN]

Talks With Iraq's Ramadan Begin in Amman

JN131257 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Amman —The Jordanian side led by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and the Iraqi side led by Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister and RCC member, began official talks at the Prime Ministry this morning.

The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by the deputy prime minister and interior minister; the minister of transportation; the minister of industry, trade, and tourism; the minister of municipal, rural, and environmental affairs; the minister of finance; and a number of officials.

On the Iraqi side, the talks were attended by the minister of trade, the minister of housing and reconstruction, the Transport and Communications Ministry under secretary, and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

During the talks, the two sides reviewed developments in the Arab region and bilateral relations and ways to promote them in the economic, trade, and transportation fields. They also discussed issues concerning the establishment of a pipeline to carry oil from Iraqi territory to the Jordanian port city of Aqaba. The two sides are also expected to hold a second round of talks at the Prime Ministry this evening.

Confers With King Husayn

JN131631 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC memebr and first deputy prime minister, who conveyed to his majesty the regards of His Excellency President Saddam Husayn of Iraq and the Iraqi leadership's appreciation for Jordan's pan-Arab stand in support of fraternal Iraq.

His majesty reviewed the Arab situation in general and Jordan's viewpoint toward it. Ramadan made a comprehensive explanation to his majesty on the reassuring Iraqi military position on the Iraqi-Iranian front.

The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by the prime minister; the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; the minister of the court, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; the deputy prime minister and minister of interior; the ministers of foreign affairs, transportation, industry, trade and tourism, finance, and municipal and rural affairs and environment; the secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court; and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

On the Iraqi side, the meeting was attended by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Muhammad Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction; and Ibrahim Shuja' Sultan, ambassador to Jordan. Ramadan and the guests had lunch with His Majesty King Husayn.

Closed Talks End 13 Aug

JN131916 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1850 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Amman, 13 Aug (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, held a closed meeting with Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat here tonight. The two sides completed the Iraqi-Jordanian talks which began earlier today.

Informed sources told an INA correspondent here that 'Ubaydat and Ramadan expressed satisfaction with the cordial and positive atmosphere which permeated their talks and called for continuous efforts between the two countries' officials on all levels to promote bilateral cooperation in all fields.

Sign Cooperation Minutes

JN131944 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1905 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Amman, 13 Aug (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and Ahmad 'Ubaydat, Jordanian prime minister, attended the signing ceremony of the minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Iraqi-Jordanian committee here tonight. The minutes were signed by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member, trade minister, and head of the Iraqi side to the joint committee, and for Jordan by Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry, trade, and tourism. The minutes provide for increasing trade exchange and cooperation in the field of transportation and communications.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Taha Yasin Ramadan stressed that what has been agreed is a new development in the bases of cooperation between the two fraternal countries in the service of the Arab nation. Ahmad 'Ubaydat, in turn, emphasized that Iraqi-Jordanian relations will continue to develop and expand in all domains.

Ramadan and 'Ubaydat expressed their appreciation for and pride in the progress and continuous development of bilateral relations so that they will be a model for relations between fraternal countries.

Resumes Talks 13 Aug

JN140737 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Amman — The Jordanian side led by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, and the Iraqi side led by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister, resumed official talks at the Prime Ministry last night. During the talks, the two sides reviewed fraternal relations between the two countries, which are being consolidated thanks to His Majesty King Husayn and President Saddam Husayn.

The talks dealt with several issues related to trade, transportation and oil fields. The two sides discussed the means of promoting trade exchange, particularly regarding commodities produced in both countries which are needed by the other country, in order to promote economic integration between the two fraternal countries.

The talks also dealt with issues related to providing more transportation facilities via Jordan's territories, whether regarding the commodities produced in Jordan or those exported via the port city of Aqaba for fraternal Iraq. They also discussed bilateral cooperation in the field of oil, particularly concerning the establishment of the Jordanian-Iraqi pipeline to carry Iraqi crude oil via Aqaba. They stressed their interest in implementing this vital project.

The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by the deputy prime minister and interior minister; the minister of transportation; the minister of trade, tourism, and industry; the minister of finance; and the minister of municipal, rural and environmental affairs. On the Iraqi side, the talks were attended by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; and Muhammad Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction. The Iraqi ambassador in Amman and a number of Jordanian and Iraqi officials also participated in the talks.

Ramadan Leaves Amman 14 Aug

JN140830 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Amman, 14 Aug (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and his accompanying delegation left Amman today at the end of a 2-day visit to Jordan.

In a statement to the INA correspondent Ramadan said that his visit was successful. He said: I held talks with His Majesty King Husayn and Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat on bilateral relations in all spheres in service of the two countries' interests. Ramadan added that King Husayn had asked him to convey greetings to President Saddam Husayn and had reiterated Jordan's stand in support of Iraq, which has been waging a defensive war for more than 4 years. Ramadan said that during the visit the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Iraqi-Jordanian committee were signed. The minutes provide for expanding trade exchange and cooperation in the sphere of transportation and communications as well as other economic spheres.

The delegation accompanying Ramadan comprises Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Muhammad Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction; 'Abd as-Sattar Faraman, under secretary of the Ministry of Transport and Communications; and other Iraqi officials.

Iraq's Ramadan on Pipeline, Red Sea Mining

JN140719 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 14 Aug 84 p 1

[By Lamis K. Andoni]

[Text] Amman — Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan said Monday that Jordan and Iraq have not yet obtained satisfactory guarantees for the security of a projected Iraq-Jordan oil pipeline, and he accused Iran and Libya of being responsible for mining the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez.

The Iraqi leader, who arrived in Amman Monday, was talking in an interview with the *JORDAN TIMES* following talks with His Majesty King Husayn , Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and other senior Jordanian leaders.

The Jordanian news agency, PETRA, said Monday that during the talks Mr Ramadan briefed the king on the latest developments in the four-year old Iran-Iraq war.

Mr Ramadan is leading an Iraqi delegation which includes Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali and oil and transport officials. The delegation members also held talks with Mr. 'Ubaydat and other Jordanian ministers in which the $1 billion oil pipeline project to carry Iraqi crude to Aqaba to help boost Iraqi oil exports was discussed.

The two countries initialled the project last month but only half of the cost of the 1,000-kilometre pipeline has so far been guaranteed by the U.S. Export-Import Bank.

But Mr Ramadan told the *JORDAN TIMES* that while financing the project did not constitute a problem, failure to get security guarantees for the pipeline is delaying the execution of the project. "Until now we have no security guarantees that Israel would not sabotage the pipeline," he said.

Mr Ramadan explained that the U.S. firm Bechtel, which is supposed to execute the project, has so far rejected conditions laid by both countries for the security of the pipeline.

Jordan and Iraq have stipulated that they would pay the cost of the project from the revenues from oil transported through the pipeline and that they would not pay back any amount if the pipeline stopped functioning due to an Israeli sabotage.

According to Mr Ramadan the American construction company has so far not agreed to this condition. But negotiations are still going on, Mr. Ramadan said.

The Iraqi leader explained that the project has to be executed by an American company because "the U.S. is the only power that can deter Israel from attacking a project executed by a major U.S. company."

Mr Ramadan's statement that no security guarantees have been obtained for the pipeline appeared to contradict a recent statement by Industry, Trade and Tourism Minister Jawad al-'Anani, that the security of the project is guaranteed.

Mr Ramadan also talked about the series of blasts, apparently by mines, in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez which have damaged at least 16 vessels.

"We believe that Iran and Libya are behind the recent mine explosions in the Red Sea," the Iraqi official said, echoing a similar accusation made by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

"Egypt has shown full understanding of the dimensions of the explosions and has taken the right stance," he said. "The crisis in the Red Sea aims at diverting the world's attention from the Gulf war and easing the pressure on Iran," he said.

In reply to a question on the Iran-Iraq war, Mr Ramadan said that Iraq would continue "the economic and military war of attrition" against Iran until Tehran agrees to negotiate peace.

"In the face of the Iranian intransigence Iraq is left with one choice only," he said. "We cannot but continue with our military operations which aim at exhausting the Iranian military and economic resources, and to force Tehran, to accept peace," he said.

Mr Ramadan was expected to leave for Baghdad on Tuesday.

PETRA quoted Mr Ramadan as saying in an arrival statement that his visit was a routine one to coordinate efforts for greater cooperation between Jordan and Iraq.

Mr Ramadan was met by a large ministerial welcoming party led by Prime Minister 'Ubaydat.

He told the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY before leaving Baghdad he would brief the Jordanian leaders on developments in Iraq's war with Iran. He said Iraq was ready to face any new offensive, but would support efforts to end the conflict.

Foreign Minister Al-Masri on Red Sea Mines

JN140747 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 14 Aug 84 pp 1, 24

[Rabab Manki dispatch]

[Text] Amman — In a statement to *AR-RA'Y*, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has said that planting mines in the Red Sea does not constitute a direct threat to the port of Aqaba, but poses a greater threat to collective Arab security, which certainly affects Jordan, especially since the Red Sea is an Arab sea and any harm to the security of any Arab state will affect the other Arab states.

Regarding the side responsible for planting the mines, Al-Masri said: We do not know who is responsible for planting the mines. However, regardless of who is responsible, he seeks to harm the Arab nation, particularly at this difficult time through which our nation is passing.

He added: The extension of trouble to the Red Sea and the arbitrary attacks on ships regardless of their nationality and cargo confirms that whoever planted the mines seeks evil to the Arab nation.

Official Raps U.S.-Israeli Free Trade Zone

JN131939 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 13 Aug 84 pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman, *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* — Hamdi at-Tabba', president of the Union of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, has warned of the danger of the U.S. plan to sign an agreement on setting up a free trade zone between the United States and Israel. On the occasion of the current visit by a U.S. congressional delegation to occupied Palestine to draft this agreement, At-Tabba' made an exclusive statement to *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* in which he said that if the agreement is signed it will have a major effect on Arab-U.S. trade relations. He added that the agreement would allow Israeli goods to compete with U.S. goods.

At-Tabba' also said: It seems that the United States will continue to support the occupation authorities with all means and capabilities at the expense of the American people and interests. He also pointed out that the agreement will enable Israel to infiltrate goods into Arab markets through the United States, a fact that will lead to many measures being taken against U.S. goods in order to prevent this from happening. He added that the Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce and the Arab Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture have expressed deep concern over this issue and sent an official protest to U.S. authorities. He also explained that the Union of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce is currently holding contacts with various Jordanian officials and economic figures in the private sector in order to discuss ways to confront the new U.S.-Israeli step.

Editorial Views Israeli Threat, Extremists

JN140735 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 14 Aug 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Where the Danger Lies"]

[Text] There is nothing more detrimental to Israel's statehood than for Israelis to think that employing extremism with the Arabs could work. He who thinks that Menahem Begin's ascendancy to power in 1977 was the major reason behind Anwar as-Sadat's decision to make his trip to Jerusalem may have a point; but to say that this move has set a pattern, that the more extremist the Israelis get the softer Arab resistance becomes, is indeed a dangerous mistake.

Those Israeli moderates who were deeply shocked and distressed by the results of the general elections last month had a good cause to be grieved. The gains that the right and the extremists have made were all at the expense of Israel's future and well-being. In fact, the moderates had every reason to mourn their luck.

Naturally, we in Jordan are concerned that Israel, armed by the U.S. to the teeth and led by extremist and bellicose leaders, would do anything to redraw the Middle East map in favour of its ambitions in the area. Jordan is in fact alarmed that Israelis like Generals Sharon and Eytan would not hesitate a second to invade this country on a pretext similar to that used in Lebanon: to protect the security of their state. It is far- fetched for some to agree with this analysis; but was it not almost unimaginable that Begin send his troops up to the gates of an Arab capital two years ago? And, look at the mess in Israel today. Did not the voters move to the right — to Tehiya and KAKH — looking for leadership, exactly when the "reasonable" leaders showed they have very little to offer?

Of course Jordan could not afford to ignore the Israeli threat. Nor could we afford to understimate the other dangers stemming from a host of other factors, elswhere. The real issue, nevertheless, is, and will always be, not whether Jordan can protect itself against external aggression and foreign designs, but whether this country can be helped to exert enough moderating influence in an area that is as explosive as a powder keg.

Everyday we ask ourselves where we are heading to, what the Jews of Israel are doing to themselves — and, by implication, to us; and we ask about the future — twenty, thirty, fifty years from now. We realise just how difficult the challenge is for Jordan to go through all of this. But we are even more pessimistic about the area's future generations and how they are likely to be.

Austrian Defense Minister Heads Visit to Amman

JN131900 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Austrian National Defense Minister Dr Friedhelm Frischenschlager arrived in Amman this afternoon heading a military delegation on a visit of several days to Jordan at the invitation of the Jordanian Armed Forces. The guest minister will visit a number of military and historical sites in Jordan. The Austrian minister was received by Staff Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; the chief of staff; a number of senior officers; and the Austrian ambassador in Amman.

The guest minister is accompanied by his wife.

Kuwaiti Daily Says Al-Jumayyil To Visit Syria

GF131802 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 12 Aug 84 p 1

[Muhammad 'Anan dispatch from Beirut]

[Excerpt] A well-informed source has affirmed to *AS-SIYASAH* that President Amin al-Jumayyil will visit the Syrian capital to complete the file on Syrian-Lebanese talks and to eliminate some obstacles which hinder the implementation of the security plan in the Lebanese mountains.

The source said that the return of direct Syrian-Lebanese contacts aim at the withdrawal of Palestinian forces in Beirut and the Lebanese Army's deployment between the As-Sayyad roundabout and Sawfar, which is regarded as the demarcation line of the Syrian forces' presence in Lebanon.

Al-Jumayyil, Junblatt Envoys Discuss Mountain Plan

NC131626 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil received former Ministers Khalid Junblatt and Marwan Hamadah this morning at B'abda Palace. The current situation was discussed in light of the consultations and contacts held so far to facilitate the implementation of the security plan for the mountain. The president had lunch with Hamadah and Junblatt, who then left the presidential palace for Al-Mukhtarah to brief Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism, who is staying at his palace for rest, on the results of their discussions with President Al-Jumayyil.

Phalangist Statement on Mountain Issue

NC131633 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The Lebanese Forces Command Council held its weekly meeting today under Fadi Afram. The council reviewed the political, organizational, and security issues on the agenda and made the appropriate decisions. The following statement was released after the meeting:

The council discussed reports on a security plan for the mountain and on the imposition of part of the plan under Syrian threats. They also touched on the postponement of the Christians' return to their villages. The Lebanese Forces affirm that Walid Junblatt's statement in Hammana on 4 August about the national character of the battle proves that what has happened and is happening is not a problem between the Lebanese Forces and the Progressive Socialist Party. A solution to this problem must therefore be reached by ensuring social, economic, and political security for all Lebanese sects. Regarding the mountain issue, a political solution must be reached that ensures security, justice, and equality for both Christians and Druze; a solution in which one faction does not dominate another. All the information and propaganda campaigns, while reducing fanaticism and pacifying tempers, will not provide a final national solution that preserves the Christians' pride on the land of their forefathers.

Fadi Afram on Security Plan, Army Deployment

NC140731 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander engineer Fadi Afram has said that there are two gaps in the security plan. The first gap is represented by the lack of security in West Beirut. Regardless of the attempts to black out the news on the daily differences and disputes, the deteriorating situation in West Beirut threatens greater Beirut's security all the time. There are Shi'ite-Sunni differences, differences between Amal and the socialists, and differences between Nabih Birri's Amal and Hezbollah's Amal. This is in addition to the differences between the pro 'Arafat and pro-Syrian Palestinians who have returned to Beirut.

All these sharp differences, added the Lebanese Forces commander, threaten West Beirut's security and consequently East Beirut's security, in addition to the acts of kidnapping which are like a sword hanging over greater Beirut.

The second gap, said engineer Fadi Afram, is political. The security plan needs political support. This political support must come from the combatants. The security plan remains inadequate unless it is accompanied by an agreement between Amal, Walid Junblatt, and the Lebanese Forces.

On his conditions for the deployment of the legitimate authority northward and beyond greater Beirut, the Lebanese Forces commander said that the legitimate authority truly exists only in our areas. The Lebanese Army — its command, barracks, and training centers — has been deployed in our areas since 1983. The events of 1983 and 1984 have taught us to depend only on our indigenous power. We must develop our military potential.

From this perspective, Afram added, we approve every deployemnt of the legitimate authority in any place provided that it does not undermine the Lebanese Force's structure or their fighters' morale. This is a matter of principle.

As for deployment northward, we have three demands: The return of the refugees to northern Lebanon, the return of the refugees to the mountain, and the opening of the road to Zahlah.

On whether the Lebanese Forces will agree to join the present government in the event it is expanded, Afram said: We have refused to participate in the government. There has been no positive development to induce us to change our stand. On the contrary, our concern that Syria will completely control Lebanese decisionmaking has proved to be true. Therefore, said Afram, we do not agree to participate in Prime Minister Karami's government in the event it is expanded so long as no change has occurred that might make us change our mind.

Our main condition for participating in any government is the reconsideration of the Geneva resolutions, especially the agreement in principle on the non-resurrection of the 1943 formula and on the need for searching for an alternative formula.

On the Lebanese Force's relations with Israel, Afram said relations between the Lebanese Forces and Israel symbolize relations between two peoples; they do not depend on a certain party, a certain person, or certain circumstances. In this connection, it is sufficient to indicate that these relations began with Shim'on Peres, when he was the Labor government's defense minister. These relations continued during the Likud government period. The Labor Party's coming to power will create repercussions that will affect several parties in Lebanon and the area more than they will affect the Lebanese Forces.

On the Phalangist Party's relations with the regime, Afram said that in light of the circumstances in which Amin al-Jumayyil was elected president, he did not represent the Phalangist Party, and was not elected because he was Phalangist. He wants to be for all the Lebanese and above all parties. In our view, the Phalangist Party does not govern. There is a Phalangist president but the presidency is not Phalangist and the regime is not Phalangist.

Birri 'Surprised' Over Cabinet Meeting Postponement

NC131453 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs and minister of water and electrical resources and justice, said he is surprised over the postponement of the special Cabinet session. A session of the Cabinet was scheduled to be held tomorrow to consider the situation in the south at a time when some reports say that Israel has detached parts of the south and has seized the Al-Wazzani waters — a matter which prompts the holding of a session and not postponing it.

It is noted here that Minister Birri has been in his office since early this morning.

Southern Issues, Security Plan Violations Noted

LD131500 Kuwait KUNA in English 1018 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Beirut, Aug 13 (KUNA) — More contacts and consultations are to take place here Monday before Tuesday's Cabinet meeting scheduled to be devoted to the situation in South Lebanon, amidst reports that Israel has moved the barbed wire separating its northern border with Lebanon between 3 to 5 kilometers inside the Lebanese territory.

A report carried by the Lebanese *AS-SAFIR* daily newspaper said Israel has moved the barbed wire inside occupied south Lebanon, practically seizing up to 7,000,000 square meters of water-rich area that includes four villages and several farms.

The paper said a group of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) went to the area to investigate the new Israeli move but has been fired at by the Israeli forces 200 meters away from the newly-erected wire.

According to the leftist paper Israel is at present constructing several canals to carry water from the occupied Lebanese land to northern Israel. The paper said the Lebanese authorities are currently preparing a note of "protest" to be presented at the U.N. Security Council against the Israeli practice, after consulting with the council members and big countries.

In the meantime, sources close to the presidential palace said Minister of Public Works and Tourism Walid Jublatt called on President Amin Al-Jumayyil today in an attempt to reach an agreement on the proposed security plan for the mountain area.

Another meeting will be held today at the Defense Ministry headquarters grouping Lebanese Army Commander General Michel Awn, Chief of Staff Major General Nadim al-Hakim and the Commander of the 11th Brigade Col Amin al-Qadi and other officers to discuss the security plan.

The Cabinet meeting tomorrow, which is expected to focus on southern affairs, is also scheduled to touch on hot issues such as the unstable security situation which prevailed last week and violations of the security plan in greater Beirut.

Meanwhile, observers here commented on reports that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam would visit Beirut yesterday and the fact that such a visit had not taken place by saying that "Khaddam has not visited Beirut to demonstrate the Syrian impatience with the Lebanese regime which failed to implement issues already agreed upon in meetings between Syrian and Lebanese presidents and between Khaddam and Al-Jumayyil attended by the Lebanese opposition ministers".

Al-Khalil Calls for Israeli UN Complaint on Water

NC140631 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Deputy Dr 'Ali al-Khalil has denounced Israeli practices aimed at stealing the Al-Wazzani waters and seizing territory in the south. He called for submitting an urgent complaint to the United Nations Security Council.

Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, the distinguished Ja'farite Mufti, has called for the salvation of the people of the south who have and are still making sacrifices in blood and money for the sake of the homeland.

Arab League's As-Sid Continues Visit

Meets With Skaf on Occupation

NC131457 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Joseph Skaf, minister of information and acting interior minister, this morning received Hammad as-Sid, the personal envoy of the Arab League secretary general. The discussions dealt with the vist which Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi will soon pay to Lebanon.

Minister Skaf briefed As-Sid on the general situation in Lebanon and in particular on the situation in western Al-Biqa', the south, and Rashayya. The minister drew As-Sid's attention to the role which the Arab League can play to end the Israeli occupation of the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya. Minister Skaf stressed that the Arab League should make an effective move to help Lebanon achieve this goal.

Received by Karami

NC131654 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Rashid Karami followed up the security situation in Beirut and other areas today. He studied the reports he received from concerned security organs.

The prime minister today received Hammad as-Sid, personal envoy of the Arab League secretary general. They discussed the forthcoming visit by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi to Beirut. After the meeting, As-Sid said: The meeting with Prime Minister Karami is part of the current mission I am discharging now in the name of Chedli Klibi to prepare for the secretary general's meeting with Lebanese officials and to compile the Lebanese dossier, which the secretary general might submit at the League's forthcoming council session and then to the next Arab summit.

Regarding the date of Klibi's visit to Lebanon, As-Sid said: The visit will take place as soon as possible after I conclude this mission and my meetings with Lebanese officials.

As-Sid was told: Lebanon has requested that a propaganda campaign be launched abroad regarding the south. What moves have been made in this respect? He answered: Your Information Ministry knows that the Arab League has sent several hundreds of thousands of dollars to Lebanon to help launch this campaign.

Karami Receives Arab League's Al-As'ad

NC140900 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami received Ambassador As'ad al-As'ad, the Arab League assistant secretary general, at his office in the government house this morning. Ambassador al-As'ad later said: I visited Prime Minister Karami on the occasion of my presence in Lebanon for the first time since he formed the government which restored confidence in the hearts of the Lebanese. I conveyed to him my respect. Answering a question, Ambassador al-As'ad denied that there is any connection between his presence in Lebanon on a private visit — which does not prevent him, being a veteran Lebanese, from visiting his friends the officials — and the presence of his colleague Hammad as-Sid who is visiting Lebanon on a mission entrusted to him by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

Amal Affirms 'Strong' Relations With PSP

NC140555 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] A responsible source in the Amal movement last night affirmed that relations with the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] are strong and said that rumors about differences are unfounded and are aimed at creating division among members of one rank. It has become clear that those hindering the reopening of the southern coastal highway and the security plan in the mountain are the same people trying to distort the facts.

The source added that the Amal movement stresses the depth of its relations with leaders of the national rank, led by Walid Junblatt and the PSP, and that these relations cannot be affected.

RFL Says Amal Detained Sunnites in Beirut

NC131242 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Amal gunmen stormed several Sunnite houses in Al-Bastah, the outskirts of Al-Musaytibah, and Hubaysh. They detained several of the inhabitants whose names were on the gunmen's lists. The detainees were then taken to an Amal stronghold in the southern suburb where they were interrogated by a person named Abu 'Ali.

Sunnite leaders are holding intensive contacts with security officials and Amal leaders. They are warning against the consequences of these continued aggressions and calling for the release of the detainees. It has been learned that Mufti Hasan Khalid expressed his dismay and told the relatives of the detainees that he is concerned about this issue, promising them that he will be holding contacts with the parties concerned.

Khalid, Soviet Charge Review Current Situation

NC140615 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Shaykh Hasan Khalid, his eminence the mufti of the Lebanese Republic, has reviewed with Yuriy Suslikov, the Soviet charge d'affaires in Lebanon, all aspects of the current situation and the USSR's role in checking the Isreali practices in the south, western Al-Biqa' and Rashayya.

PRC Ambassador Meets With Walid Junblatt 12 Aug

NC121722 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] The PRC ambassador to Lebanon today visited Al-Mukhtarah and met with Progressive Socialist Party Leader Walid Junblatt. They discussed current issues and PRC-Lebanese relations.

LCP's Hawi Calls for Arab-Socialist Alliance

AU131508 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 11 Aug 84 pp 1, 5

[Text] Comrade George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party [LCP] Central Committee, was a guest in our country. Before his departure he was kind enough to answer a few questions asked by a representative of our editorial board.

[*RABOTNICHESKO DELO*] Comrade Hawi, how would you describe the most important tasks facing the Lebanese Communists and the other progressive forces in your country today, when the gradual process of normalization is beginning in Lebanon?

[Hawi] We are interested in a normalization of life in Lebanon, we are trying to prevent the forces linked to Israel from aggravating the situation and from fanning conflicts within the country which are solely serving the goals of Israel and the United States. This is our first and most immediate task. Its successful implementation will enable us to cope with the other task of basic importance — the unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli occupiers from our country and the restoration of Lebanon's full sovereignty.

This is where the third chief task begins, namely, the implementation of the necessary political, economic, and social reforms likely to ensure a democratic development of our country.

We insist upon the elimination of the ethnic-religious split in our country, we insist upon the implementation of democratic changes likely to permit the Lebanese people to choose their own representatives and to elect them in parliament, and hence to elect their own government, so that the political, economic, and social struggle may acquire a democratic character instead of being waged with arms and violence.

In order to accomplish these tasks our party considers necessary an alliance of all progressive and patriotic forces in Lebanon and appeals for the establishment of a democratic, patriotic front which should include all forces interested in the aforementioned changes and should be capable of mobilizing the people's masses.

The LCP and the Progressive Socialist Party published a joint communique on 26 June 1984 proposing a five-point program for this front. The first point demands the expulsion of the Israeli occupiers and support for the national resistance against occupation. The program then stresses the great importance we are attaching to the consolidation of independence and to the restoration of the country's unity. The program also devotes attention to the question of Lebanon's belonging to the Arab world, to the necessity of developing relations with Syria and of supporting the PLO. The fourth point pertains to the accomplishment of a political reform reflected in the liquidation of the ethnic-religious system and in amending the election law. The program further contains socioeconomic reforms. These reforms are required by the economic restoration of the country. This joint communique, signed by me and Walid Junblatt, represents the basis of the broad dialogue which is now being conducted in our country.

[*RABOTNICHESKO DELO*] How do you evaluate the situation in the Middle East? Do you expect any changes in the policy of imperialism and Zionism following the parliamentary elections in Israel and in the period preceding presidential elections in the United States?

[Hawi] The situation in the Middle East is very dangerous and delicate today. We expect the imperialists and Zionists to renew their attacks following elections in Israel and the United States with the purpose of imposing a settlement of the Middle East crisis which is convenient for them. This settlement will be directed against the interests of the Palestinian people and against the interests of the people in the area, against the interests of peace. The elections held ahead of schedule in Israel have confirmed the severe crisis in that country. Israel is incapable of extricating itself from the political crisis, since a certain balance between the political forces striving for power in Israel has been established and since the policy of all these forces is aggressive. The purpose of the elections was to work out a uniform Israeli stand and to adopt a more determined policy aimed at perpetuating the occupation of Lebanon, a policy directed against Syria and the PLO. If Reagan is reelected, we can expect a new plan for interference in the Middle East to be developed, a plan likely to envisage a new Israeli aggression against Lebanon, Syria, and the PLO. This is why we consider it necessary to firmly oppose this plan. This demands that we intensify our resistance against occupation, strike at the aggressor, and make him consider a prompt withdrawal.

On the other hand, we must support Syria and its resolute policy in rejecting the Israeli-American pressure. We must more promptly restore the unity of the PLO on an anti-imperialist basis by irrevocably rejecting the American solutions of the Middle East problem — such as the "Reagan plan," the Camp David Accords, and others.

We must devote efforts to the cohesion of progressive, patriotic, and anti-imperialist forces in the Arab world against the plans of the United States, against Zionism, and Arab reaction. It is necessary to consolidate the Arab-Soviet friendship, the relations between Arab and socialist countries. We must respond to the strategic alliance between Israel and the United States with a strategic alliance between the Arab and socialist countries, headed by the Soviet Union.

Such an alliance, in our opinion, represents the basic and necessary prerequisite for our successful resistance against the malicious attacks of American imperialism and Zionism, whose most violent renewal we are expecting following the presidential elections in the United States. We are convinced that opportunities exist for making these attacks to fail, and we are convinced that if we succeed in making them to fail, the Arab national liberation movement will be able to adopt the offensive against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction and will be capable of winning new victories.

Tripoli Oil Refinery Resumes Operations

NC101443 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] Refining operations at the Tripoli oil refinery installations were resumed this afternoon following the completion of maintenance work that has been carried out on the equipment and machines that were damaged as a result of the clashes that took place about 2 months ago. Installations director engineer Walid Mawlawi stated that the refining operations will be restricted to fuel and mazut during the current phase and that the refining of gasoline will follow later. He said that oil tankers will be arriving at the installations and that the refinery's current output is 20,000 barrels daily, which is sufficient to meet the needs of the north and other Lebanese areas.

Israeli Patrol Attacked in South 13 Aug

NC140642 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Lebanese national resistance fighters yesterday detonated an explosive device against an armored Israeli patrol at the Dayr Qanun-Ra's al-'Ayn junction on the Tyre-an-Naqurah main road. One vehicle of the patrol was directly hit and a helicopter was seen taking the wounded from the scene while Israeli forces rushed to the area to cut the road for several hours and to search for those who planted the device.

Israeli Planes Carry Out 'Exercises' in South 13 Aug

NC140612 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Several Israeli warplanes yesterday carried out exercises over An-Nabatiyah and nearby hills attacking specific targets.

Ash-Shar' Views Foreign, Palestinian Ties

PM131207 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 11-17 Aug 84 pp 8-10

[Interview with Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' by Huda al-Murr in Damascus — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Murr] What does Syria expect from the coming Arab summit, and will it be held as scheduled?

[Ash-Shar'] We hope that the summit conference will be held as scheduled. But what is more important than holding it is to hope for its success, particularly since we have sufficient time to prepare for it. But there is a point which I consider important, namely that we do not consider the failure to convene the summit or the failure of its meetings a disaster, despite the need for Arab solidarity and the importance of the success of this solidarity. Frankly, we do not wish to live on the illusions of Arab summits. We are now working day and night to strengthen our political position and defense capabilities. We are also holding bilateral contacts with many Arab countries, so we are not remaining at a political standstill waiting to see whether the summit will meet or not. We have not discussed this matter before and we have not made statements about it, but we truly believe in what I just said.

[Al-Murr] It has been reported that a meeting will take place between King Fahd and President al-Asad. What is the nature of this meeting?

[Ash-Shar'] Relations between King Fahd and President al-Asad are good. There are also continuing contacts between us and Saudi Arabia, and every time there is a need for such contact.

[Al-Murr] Will this meeting take place to prepare for the summit or to discuss the situation in the Gulf?

[Ash-Shar'] For a meeting to take place between the king and the president is something natural. I believe that it is necessary to hold this meeting before the summit. As for the situation in the Gulf, it is disturbing. Our attitude to it is to prevent the involvement of any other country in this war. We are also seeking to establish good-neighborly relations between the Gulf countries and Iran. In fact, we have met with response from both sides.

[Al-Murr] Last month you received French Minister for External Affairs Claude Cheysson. Your reception was cool, and he was not received by President al-Asad. Can it be said that there is a certain deterioration in Syrian-French relations?

[Ash-Shar'] Syrian-French relations have passed through a period of lukewarmness and sometimes misunderstanding, due partly to recent events and partly to not so recent ones. The recent events happened during incidents in Lebanon. The French tried to play a role that does not serve Lebanese or Syrian interests, thus totally disregarding Arab interests. In practice they took part in the fighting and stood with one side against another. The same thing happened with the Americans. The attitude of the French was identical with the U.S. policy — which was a surprise to the nationalist movement. This also contributed to complicating matters and relations between us and the French. As for the somewhat more distant cause, it was the coming of the socialist to power. We believed that their accession to power would make the attitude to us better than that of the previous rightist French governments. But unfortunately our expectations proved wrong — in their foreign policy the socialists are more rightist than the French Right. Their policy favors Israel and seeks to please it much more than the French Right and more than the Gaullists did.

[Al-Murr] Did you discuss these points with the French?

[Ash-Shar'] We expressed our views frankly to him [Cheysson]. We told him that, when the French Air Force flew into Lebanese airspace and bombed the positions of the nationalist and Islamic movement in Beirut, it would not have been able to do so had that action not been coordinated with the Israelis in a single operations room. Of course, Cheysson categorically denied that there was coordination between France and Israel. However, Cheysson's visit was an opportunity to exchange views and to talk frankly to the French about the Syrian attitude and about how relations can be improved, particularly since we did not mince our words during our discussions with the French minister.

[Al-Murr] Following Abu al-Lutf's [Faruq Qaddumi] visit to Damascus some people believed that an 'Arafat visit to Damascus was imminent. But Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's recent statements regarding the Palestinian resistance and the PLO have made the idea of reconciliation more distant.

[Ash-Shar'] There is nothing marring Syrian-Palestinian relations in their wider, militant context. We feel that the Palestinian people's problem is the problem of the Syrian people. There is no such a thing as a crisis between Syria and the PLO. Rather there is a crisis within the PLO or, more precisely, within the Fatah Movement. This crisis has affected the PLO and its position as well as its Arab and international reputation. We believe that there is a political line within Fatah based on many illusions. The first is the illusion that Israel wants peace. Another illusion is that the United States can bring pressure to bear on Israel to accept a plan for a just peace in the area. Unfortunately, some of the Arab countries are playing a role in nurturing these illusions. Some Palestinian professors teaching in American universities are also doing the same thing. Nor must we forget the role of the Western media, which have played up the significance of this trend. Some of the Arab media also contributed to this effort, thereby projecting the leaders of this trend as being the pivot of the Palestinian problem, as if the fate of the problem or of the PLO depended on one single individual. This is a serious factor and it does not serve the interest of the Palestinian people or the Palestinian revolution.

[Al-Murr] If all the Palestinian resistance factions once again agree on keeping 'Arafat as PLO leader, what will Syria's attitude be?

[Ash-Shar'] Practically this cannot possibly happen — that is, for all the factions to agree on 'Arafat's staying, because the eight factions with whose general secretaries and leaders we have been meeting have constantly criticized 'Arafat and his political line.

[Al-Murr] So do you have a better candidate than 'Arafat?

[Ash-Shar'] This matter does not concern us. The Palestinian leaderships and the resistance factions realize their patriotic and nationalist responsibilities, and they can decide on this matter.

[Al-Murr] What is your attitude to Palestinian-Jordanian relations?

[Ash-Shar'] Our attitude is frank and clear. We consider the Arab-Israeli conflict to be a serious matter that no Arab party can unilaterally resolve. This is a national issue and a question of destiny, the responsibility for which must be shared by all the Arab nation. No individual, whoever he may be, can adopt unilateral solutions.

[Al-Murr] What about current Syrian-Jordanian relations?

[Ash-Shar'] There is nothing new. There is only the fact that relations are not in a state of tension as they used to be in the past. For our part we believe that Jordan's attitude to Syrian-Jordanian relations and its political stand toward the Arab-Israeli conflict to a large extent determine the future of relations between us and Jordan. In other words, the more Jordan is serious and desirous of improving Jordanian-Syrian relations, the more we will reciprocate such steps. Of course, all these things would help in normalizing Syrian-Jordanian relations.

[Al-Murr] But in his recent statements King Husayn was clear in criticizing U.S. policy.

[Ash-Shar'] The problem is that we have information indicating that the Jordanian criticism of U.S. policy is not an actual criticism of the essence of that policy. It is more a reproach to U.S. policy than a rejection of it. The criticism is directed at the United States because it has erred and not because it has failed. Consequently the Jordanian line is different from ours. Jordan criticism of the U.S. policy is different from our criticism of the United States and its policy in the area.

[Al-Murr] Despite your attacks on the United States you have not halted contacts with it. Indeed, certain quarters say that Syria is holding both ends of the U.S.-Soviet line.

[Ash-Shar'] It is wrong to say that we are holding both ends of the line. We did not and will not reject Syrian-U.S. dialogue, not even during the time when there was confrontation and clash between us and the United States in Lebanon. Why? Because we fully believe that the Americans must constantly and clearly know our attitude with regard to their policy, which is hostile to the interests of the Arab nation in the area. We believe that our dialogue with the United States enables us to always frankly tell them the following: Americans, you are wrong in this policy; you are not implementing U.S. policy in the area but executing what Israel wants.

We have told this to every U.S. official we have met. I assure you that if the minutes of what has taken place with U.S. officials are published they will be a source of pride for Syria in front of all the Arabs. For example, the U.S. ambassador to Syria was transferred last month. When he came to say goodbye to me he said: There have been critical moments between you and us during recent events in Lebanon. I was afraid for my life and I was afraid that diplomatic ties were going to be broken off at any time.

My answer was: As long as there is a U.S. Embassy in Damascus we are responsible for protecting it. As for your thinking that Damascus was going to sever relations with the United States, was such thinking on the mind of the U.S. Administration? Because, as Syrian leaders, it absolutely never crossed our minds to break off relations with you.

I also stressed to the ambassador the following: We want to see you to tell you what your mistakes are. This is as far as our relations with the United States are concerned. As for our relations with the Soviet Union, they are relations of friendship and cooperation. We have expressed this view many times. We cannot say that our relations with the United States are similar to our relations with the Soviet Union. We cannot equate the policy of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union with the hostile policy to the interests of the Arab nation which the United States is pursuing.

Oil Minister Confers With Soviet Ambassador

JN131946 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1910 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 13 Aug (SANA) — During a meeting with the Soviet ambassador in Damascus, Minister of Oil and Mineral Wealth Dr Ghazi Durubi reviewed relations between Syria and the USSR and their future. During the meeting, which was attended by the Soviet Embassy staff and the assistant minister of oil for oil affairs, the two sides asserted the need to develop these relations in the service of the interests of people in the two friendly countries. The minister of oil praised the USSR's great support for Syria, especially in the field of oil industry and extraction. He also praised the increasing trade between the two countries, especially in phosphates.

Al-Asad Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Message

JN141154 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] At 1215 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Muhammad az-Zu'i, member of the Higher Committee for Pan-Arab Action in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Az-Zu'i delivered a message to President al-Asad from Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, on the situation and developments in the region and bilateral relations. President al-Asad asked him to convey a reply message. The two sides also discussed the situation in the region.

Algeria's Chadli Bendjedid Telephones Al-Asad

JN131423 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call this afternoon from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The conversation dealt with bilateral issues and Arab developments.

Monte Carlo: Khaddam Receives Lebanese Envoy

JN131033 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Our correspondent in Damascus, Louis Faris, has informed us that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received this morning the Lebanese president's envoy, Michel Samaha, for the second time in 24 hours. After the meeting, Samaha described the talks as positive and constructive. He said that the talks dealt with the security plan in the mountain and on the coastal road. He added that Khaddam asked him to convey a message to President Amin al-Jumayyil. Michel Samaha left Damascus for Beirut this morning.

TISHRIN: Concern Over Mines Result of Media

JN131135 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0735 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 13 Aug (SANA) — Commenting on the Red Sea mining, *TISHRIN* today says that the Egyptian regime was the only country on the Red Sea that had requested military assistance from the NATO countries to remove these mines. Pondering this unilateral Egyptian request, *TISHRIN* affirms that there are certain parties that benefit from hampering free navigation in both the Suez Canal and the Red Sea and are planning carefully to achieve this goal. In its commentary headlined "The Malicious Mining," *TISHRIN* reaches two conclusions: First, the concern in the Arab arena and the world over that this mining is the result of a highly coordinated campaign by the NATO countries' media and those countries rotating in their orbits. The result of this campaign is identical to the result of the highly coordinated campaign about 4 years ago which attended Saddam Husayn's fabricated flaring up of a fierce war, a campaign aimed at distracting attention from the Arabs' central issue — Palestine. Second, the allied U.S. military presence, which the Egyptian newspaper *AL-AHRAM* describes as a rapid response [to the mining] and affirms that Egypt is not isolated, absolutely conradicts the Egyptian people's genuine inclination to get rid of this U.S. military presence that is oppressing Egypt through the various military bases, Multinational Forces, and the joint periodic maneuvers which the U.S. Army carries out on Egyptian territory.

TISHRIN concludes: In light of these two conclusions we can understand the dimensions of the malicious mining and the extent to which the plotting, meanness, and malice of the imperialist and Zionist enemy of this nation can reach.

AL-BA'TH Comments on Red Sea Mines

JN141239 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 14 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the situation in the Red Sea, the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* says: Day after day new strings are being unraveled that shed more light on what has become known as the mining of the Red Sea waters and the Suez banks. It also makes more clear the real objectives of this clamor, which was caused after the explosion of 15 mines in the Red Sea waters since last July, and the real reasons behind the suspect moves in the Arab and international arenas which accompanied the explosions.

Regardless of the side which planned and implemented the mining of the Red Sea waters — and all signs so far indicate that the United States is the principal party involved in this — we say that security in the Red Sea and on the Suez banks is first and foremost an Arab responsibility. This is an old fact that does not need to be proved. The safety of navigation in that vital waterway does not mean the freedom to impose hegemony on it as the United States and its NATO allies are currently doing.

AL-BA'TH continues: On the other hand, what makes one suspicious is that many allusions and many statements in the Western press by diplomats who are familiar with the region were made before and during the discovery of the mines in the Red Sea. All these statements heralded the imminent return of the U.S. military presence to the Middle East area without defining or giving any reasons or excuses for such a return, particularly in the wake of the firm Lebanese march toward security, stability, and freeing themselves from all the obligations that linked the situation in Lebanon to the Multinational Forces.

All those now following this military mobilization, which the United States had announced with an effective British and French participation on the pretext of clearing the Red Sea of mines and defending its security, and all those who are observing these naval and air convoys which left different Western ports to the Red Sea and its southern entrance, cannot help but find more than one reason that links the announcement of the near return of the U.S. soldiers to the area and the explosions in the Red Sea. They also cannot but view the explosions in the Red Sea as being a premeditated action that was planned and implemented by big imperialist interests led by the U.S. and NATO interests.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Whether this is a new U.S. arrangement in the Middle East, which some may explain as being part of a wide plot that will result in a large aggression against Syria, or whether this has something to do with the imposition of large scale influence in the Red Sea and on its western and eastern shores, the Arabs today must be more careful and must throughouly review their positions. Surrendering our rights for security and sovereignty in the Red Sea area would be a historical relinquishment of the future of an entire nation and a blatant participation with the U.S. aggressor in any aggression it plans against Arabs. From now on, Syria will not be scared by all these maneuvers through which the United States tries to restore its reputation in an area where we have the right to make decisions on our rights and our future.

Damascus on Objectives of U.S. Policy in Gulf

JN111359 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers: The Middle East is considered one of the most important and sensitive areas in the world because it occupies a position in which three continents converge and the interests of major international blocs intesect; because it contains the largest supplies of oil in the non-socialist world; because it is primarily responsible for the oil imported to Western Europe, Japan, and most of the developed countries; because it provides imaginary profits for world oil monopolists, foremost being the U.S. monopolists; and because of the effects that developments in the region will have on the situation in the world, on the competition between both the socialist and capitalist blocs, and on the situation in the developed countries.

Thus, it is natural that developments in the region attract world attention and that the region's events create reactions and actions. Since World War II, not one of the world's countries have witnessed the armed conflicts, crises, and tensions like those witnessed by the Middle East. The United States and Israeli are responsible for the continuation of the crises in the region and for the past, current, and future wars and conflicts. The danger of igniting a military conflict escalates with the continuation of U.S. attempts to control the region, its resources, its position, and its fate; and to help Israel — its main and central ally in the region — implement its expansionist schemes inside the Arab territories and against the Arab rights. U.S. brutality and aggression becomes more violent with the failure of U.S. schemes and with the increasing darkness that looms on the horizon of future Israeli schemes in the region.

The United States did not hesitate to directly interfere militarily in Lebanon and Iran, to push Israel to invade Lebanon, to add fuel to the fire of the Iraqi-Iranian war, and to announce plans to impose a U.S. military presence in the Gulf region. U.S. military presence in the Gulf has always been an objective of the U.S. Administration , which announced that this region, which is oil rich, is an area linked with the national security of the United States — a country thousands of kilometers from this region. The premeditated shelling of the oil tankers in the Gulf and the excitement related to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz are not outside the feverish U.S. attempts to find an excuse to impose U.S. military presence over the Gulf states, the Gulf waters, and the neighboring areas.

Whenever the United States and its allies create a big uproar on the mines planted in the Suez Canal and direct unproven accusations toward certain sides, we must ask: Who will benefit from and who has been trying to find excuses for a permanent military presence in the Middle East and the Gulf oil states? Freedom of navigation for all oil tankers in the Gulf is required. Expanding the Gulf war will harm the Gulf states' interests and the issues of security and peace in the world. Peaceful navigation in the Suez Canal is an important issue to all the world's countries. Efforts must converge to prevent those who are tampering with the peoples' security and peace from proceeding with their attempts and plots.

Despite all the U.S. and Israeli attempts to avert Arabs eyes from their basic conflict with Israeli to fabricated issues, differences, and to secondary conflicts, the attention of Syria and the Arabs will remain directed toward the main enemy; toward Palestine, where the battle for the U.S. maneuvers and plots that are aimed at dividing the Arabs, inciting Arabs against each other, and separating the Arabs from their allies and friends. The enemies of the Arab nation and national liberation in the region are brilliant in concocting plots, crimes, and warfare. However, the time when their weapons were once sharp, useful, and successful has gone.

Bases of International Relations Viewed

JN110837 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In its international relations, Syria firmly bases its strategy on the attitudes of world states concerning the causes of Arab struggle and the rights for which the Arabs are fighting on all levels. This strategy has made Syria's links with the friendly USSR distinctive relations that derive their strength from Soviet sincerity on the principles of justice and peace and from the USSR's firm stand on Arab rights. The USSR's position is not ruled by vested interests or governed by private ends.

Syria has made its pan-Arab ideology a basis of struggle. It has placed international stands in the Arab balance. Syria, as well as other Arabs, realizes that the USSR is sincere on its principles of defending people's causes, something which was apparent in its severing of all relations with Israel and its response to international resolutions that support Arab rights and condemn the imperialist-Zionist aggression against these rights.

The United States, on the other hand, a world superpower comparable to the USSR, follows an aggressive path. It has become more threatening to the Arabs than Israel itself. Its dedication to Zionist expansionist aims is an integral part of its international strategy. The Arabs are able to prove this. The U.S. veto has foiled all UN resolutions that condemned Israeli aggression against the Arabs. All the weapons that Israel uses to kill the Arabs and occupy their territories are U.S. weapons.

The U.S. support for the Zionist aggressors did not stop at arming them and lending them political support. The Lebanese events have amply demonstrated that the United States is Israel's partner in invading Lebanon, that the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean became an Israeli strike force. The fragments of U.S. missiles in Beirut and the mountain still testify to this.

President Hafiz al-Asad's remarks to the French paper *LE MONDE* were a very apt and accurate description of U.S. behavior. The United States not only supports Israel but implements Israel's decisions as well. The USSR has never demanded any price for its support and backing for the Arab cause. It did not impose conditions on the Arabs concerning the use of their weapons in defending their rights and existence.

In view of these facts which the Arab balance shows, can evil and good be the same? Can we equate justice with aggression, right with wrong? The United States, which works to transform the Arab land into an arena of war, struggle, and destruction, made no bones about declaring that its only concern in the Middle East is to see that Israel is the sole striking power. The Arabs should kneel down before the Zionist will, and unjustly succumb to imperialist ambitions and the tyranny of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force.

Facts show that the United States is trying to surround the Arab homeland with a ring of fire. What makes the United States a friend to the Arabs when it is Israel's strategic ally and the owner of the fleets that roam the Arab seas and shores to subject the Arab homeland to dismemberment and create hotbeds of tension and bloody struggle, as is the case in the Arab Gulf?

Now that the Arabs and the world realize that Syrian-Soviet relations have turned the balance in favor of the Arabs and their rights, that these relations are based on supporting right and opposing aggression, these relations should be generalized so that they become an Arab policy through which the Arabs can enhance their determination to promote their struggle and their international support in confronting Zionist expansion and the unceasing U.S. plots.

Relations With Palestinians Viewed

JN131355 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1135 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has made statements to a Tunisian newspaper in which he said: Syria will continue to be the Palestinian revolution's main pillar on which it depends to liberate the usurped territories.

This is a realistic statement that conforms with geography, history, ties, and interests. However, in one of these statements Qaddumi said that the Palestinian-Syrian discord is not of a personal nature. This is unreal talk because actually there is no Palestinian-Syrian discord. Any adherence to such unrealistic talk does not help to improve relations between Syria and one or more Palestinian group or between the Palestinian groups themselves.

What is true is that there will be no differences between Syria and the Palestinians because any Palestinian who is concerned about liberating his homeland, regaining his rights, and providing the best circumstances for his revolution and political action against the Zionist and imperialist enemy can only be on Syria's side because Syria raises the flag of national struggle against U.S. imperialist and Zionist plans and agreements of submission and humiliation, such as the Camp David accords and the 17 May agreement in Lebanon. This Palestinian can only be on Syria's side because Syria has rejected and is still rejecting partial and unilateral solutions and has insisted and is still insisting that the Palestine question is the question of all the Arabs and that no Arab side has the right to take a unilateral political action or to negotiate for solving this question.

When Syria adheres to the Palestinian people's rights to their territory, homeland, and self-determination on the Palestinian land, and when it offers huge sacrifices and large numbers of martyrs — exceeding those offered by other parties — forthis adherence, it does not imagine that any discord or estrangement will ever occur between it and any Palestinian side that is sincere to the issue of its homeland and nation.

Only those who bargain over the land, rights, and destiny; become involved in the tunnels of covert and overt contacts with the Zionist enemy; and beg for the U.S. plans that are hostile to the Arabs — such as the Reagan plan, which is a revised and updated copy of Camp David — they are the only ones that find themselves in discord with Syria and try to wear the Palestinian cloth over their wrong attitude. However, all their attempts will always be doomed to failure because those who sell words, hang around the doors of palaces, seek to negotiate with the enemy, and bargain over the rights, land, and people cannot deceive everyone all the time. Their tricks, maneuvers, contacts, and relations have in fact been revealed. Their basic problem is not with Syria but with the Palestinian groups that reject submission, bargaining over the cause, and relinquishment of representing the Palestinian Arab people. Their difficulties and dilemmas are with those Palestinian groups and their fate is determined by those groups. Regardless of pretexts and justifications, nobody can force Syria to accept those who consented to the course of submission and settlement with U.S.-Israeli conditions and who are propagating the Camp David course.

There never has been and never will be any Palestinian-Syrian discord. Those who deviate from the Palestinian groups' common line should account for their actions to these groups. Meanwhile, Syria will remain as it has always been, the lungs through which the Palestinian revolution breathes, the arena in which the Palestinian resistance acts, and the ground which embraces the Palestine question — being the entire Arab nation's national question.

Damascus Reaffirms Adherence to Commitments

JN121302 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, anyone who has been following U.S. imperialist policy in the region and in other parts of the world will clearly realize that the adventerous trend to achieve hegemony has not stopped for a single moment even though it may have assumed a different guise on various occasions. Disregarding all the defeats with which the U.S. Administration has been afflicted in many regions, U.S. imperialism's aggressive course, while it might suffer a setback for a brief period, remains the same, without reassessing the causes that could help it learn some lessons.

If we recall examples of this, as in Latin America, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East, it seems that imperialist intransigence has not changed. The U.S.-Israeli-NATO adventurous trend in our region, which is carried out by assigning clear, specific roles, has been clearly exposed by the forces of freedom and progress. These forces practically confronted this trend and foiled its objectives. What happened recently in Lebanon is a real example of this trend and the way to thwart it.

The U.S. Administration, which is implementing Israeli policy in our region, mistakenly believed that Israel's invasion of Lebanon would achieve the objectives of the U.S.-Israeli joint policy. It believed that the invasion's partial, temporary success in the first stage would force the region's forces of freedom and progress, led by Syria, to despair, leave the battlefield, and retreat to its shell.

The error in the U.S.-Israeli calculations swiftly became apparent. The Israeli invasion forces, which received complete support from the U.S. Administration, could achieve partial success in some rounds but could not turn those successes into a strategic victory. This is what actually happened. Instead of leaving Lebanon, Syria doubled its support and backing for the Lebanese national forces until it achieved a strategic victory represented in the abrogation of the 17 May agreement — a victory which was regarded as a practical reply to what had been agreed upon in the Sykes-Picot conspiracy.

This victory crowned another and just as important success — forcing the Marines to leave Lebanon after the U.S. Administration believed it had managed to make the Marines an advanced base for the RDF in the region. Other victories followed. The Geneva conference was held followed by the Lausanne conference. The march to rescue Lebanon began through agreement on a security plan that includes all Lebanese territory and one which represents a gateway toward political accord that stipulates achieving political, constitutional, economic, and social reforms.

Naturally, this success upset the U.S. Administration, which regarded it as the cause that frustrated its designs. Therefore, the U.S. Administration began to conspire once again overtly or covertly. Both Arab and international diplomatic forums are currently saying that the United States and Israel are planning a major military operation against the Syrian forces in Lebanon. This operation will be carried out by the Israeli forces with clear support from the U.S. Administration, which signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Israel. This reaffirms that the Pentagon experts have not yet been able to learn from their repeated defeats everywhere, especially in our Arab region.

Naturally, this imperialist-Israeli course will once again be confronted by the resistance of the region's forces of freedom and progress in the region led by revolutionary Syria, which is not alone. Syria has the full support of all the world's progressive forces, foremost of which is the USSR — the strategic friend of Syria and all the Arabs which is fully prepared to meet its complete commitments. Just as the aggressive course against Syria and the Arabs failed in the past, it will fail this time as well because our people are determined to continue the struggle until victory or martyrdom.

'Observer' Views Government Leadership Struggle

PM141147 Paris LE MONDE in French 14 Aug 84 pp 1,3

[Article by unnamed "observer of Syrian questions": "A New Victory for President Al-Asad" — first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] An observer of Syrian questions who wishes to remain anonymous has sent us this analysis of the political situation in Damascus.

Is the "war of succession" sparked off by President Hafiz al-Asad's illness at the end of 1983 over? Yes, at least for the time being, experts in Syrian affairs state. By dismissing all the various protagonists — his brother Rifa't al-Asad and the military chiefs who campaigned against the latter — the Syrian head of state asserted himself as sole master of the situation.

Initially the risks of a violent confrontation were defused by the departure to Moscow at the end of May of Rifa't al-Asad and two of his "greatest enemies," Generals 'Ali Haydar (commander of the Special Forces) and Shafiq Fayyad (commander of the 3d Division), followed immediately by the return to barracks of the troops which had been deployed around and inside the Syrian capital at the end of February.

This resumption of control has since entered a second phase which goes far beyond the question of the succession and will be crowned by the forthcoming Ba'th party congress, which is expected to produce major changes in the political and military apparatus. However, it is not known whether this congress, scheduled for November 1983 and postponed because of the president's illness, and again last July, will finally be held around 15 September or whether it will be postponed again. Meanwhile President al-Asad, with his customary political sense and his skill in maneuvering, has decided not to rush things and to operate by small steps.

For instance the upheavals which were expected in early July at the top of the military hierarchy, have not taken place. Gen 'Ali Haydar and Gen Shafiq Fayyad are in Damascus as is General 'Ali Duba (chief of the Army Intelligence Services) — another fierce opponent of Rifa't al-Asad. Although there is still talk of the possibility of their being replaced and appointed to honorary posts, they have nonetheless hitherto kept their positions (Gen Fayyad, however, has apparently not resumed his activities since he returned from Moscow).

But on 1 and 2 July there was a series of changes and retirements, as usually happens twice a year, at the beginning and in the middle of the Year. During this routine operation, officers who were at the head of fighting units and had sided with one of the camps, were apparently transferred to administrative posts.

Observers noted in particular the sacking on that occasion of several second-class generals who headed technical or logistical departments — engineering, vehicles, supplies — and whose corruption had become too obvious. General Iskandar Salamah is mentioned in particular since he was implicated in a major case of illicit importing and trafficking in building materials. This is a "cleaning up" operation which apparently has no direct connection with the "war of succession."

Along the same lines, the smuggling from Lebanon has been ended — smuggling which had been organized since the Syrian troops entered that country in 1976, by a number of military chiefs, including, apparently, 'Ali Haydar, Shafiq Fayyad and...Rifa't al-Asad. This smuggling had reached an unprecedented scale in the past 2 years, owing to Syria's serious economic difficulties, and amounted to billions of Syrian pounds over that period.

Since one Friday in June the military police have been strictly checking all Army vehicles on the Syrian-Lebanese border. Orders for the mission in Lebanon are apparently now signed only by the president and the chief of staff. A parallel "market" in downtown Damascus, where the military trucks came to unload the illegally imported goods — although everybody could see them and knew about it — has been closed. Equally drastic measures have been taken in Madaya, a small border village which had become the supermarket and contraband center for the Damascus region. In general contraband has thus been reduced by 80 percent according to reports from the Syrian capital.

Indeed this contraband acted as a warning signal by showing how dangerous it could be to allow real fiefs to develop in the Armed Forces with their own clientele and their own secret supplies. Thus President Hafiz al-Asad apparently intends to carry out a real purge of the Armed Forces, and he does not seem prepared to spare anybody.

Of all these fiefs, the one which had acquired by far the greatest autonomy from the General Staff was undoubtedly that of Rifa't al-Asad's defense companies. They have not been dismantled. Moreover you can still see the orange berets of these defense companies walking around the streets of Damascus on leave. But their numbers have been reduced to the size of a normal division — around 18,000 men — all their reservists (almost 15,000 men) having been sent home.

Nonetheless a few specialized units from the defense companies (Footnote: The defense companies comprise four companies equipped with some 350 tanks, essentially Soviet-made T-72 tanks — three armored companies and a mechanized infantry brigade. They also include an artillery regiment, a missile and antiaircraft gun regiment, and two paratroop regiments. By way of comparison, Gen 'Ali Haydar's Special Forces comprise one paratroop division — 15,000 to 18,000 men.) have been integrated into the Armed Forces — this is true of a missile regiment which is now attached to Air Defense — or have simply been dissolved. For instance the defense companies no longer have intelligence services.

Although they have been placed under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Mu'in Nasif, Rifa't al-Asad's son-in-law, the defense companies are also more closely controlled by the general staff, and their mission, which they frequently exceeded until recent weeks, has been redefined. Their role will apparently henceforth be limited to the defense of Damascus and a few of the country's big cities — Homs, Lataqiah, and Tartus...(which probably partly explains the dissolution of their intelligence services).

Finally, although the defense companies still have special status, President Hafiz al-Asad has nonetheless decided to end some of their privileges. For instance the pay, which in the defense companies was two or three times as much as in the rest of the Armed Forces, has apparently been reduced to the normal level.

On the fringes of this purge, however, the rising star in the Syrian military hierarchy seems to be General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff, who was promoted to the rank of Army Corps general on 2 July. He alone has this rank in addition to General Hikmat ash-Shihabi, chief of staff, and Defense Minister Gen Mustafa Talas. This means that in future he might be called upon to succeed one of these two men.

But the repercussions of the "war of succession" have also begun to make themselves felt outside the Armed Forces. On 1 August it was learned that several members of the Ba'th Party's (pan-Arab) National Command had been suspended. They are Mr Muhammad Haydar (foreign relations), Mr Suhayl Suhayl (people's organizations), and Mr Naji Jamil, who is at present in Geneva with Mr Rifa't al-Asad. The duties of Mr Haydar and Mr Suhayl have now been taken over respectively by Mr 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, deputy secretary general of the party, and Mr Mut'ib Shanan, member of the national command.

Similar but less drastic measures have been taken against four candidate members, Mr Fawwaz Sayyagh, Mr Fadil al-Ansari, Mr George Saddiqni, and Mr Ahmad al-Hasan, who will be banned from attending National Command meetings in particular. They are apparently all accused of siding with Rifa't al-Asad against the military, and adopting positions incompatible with the party line.

A few weeks earlier, in early July, the Ba'th Party members had been ordered to resign from the Rabitah, the Association of Higher Education Diploma Holders, whose founder president is none other than Rifa't al-Asad. This association, set up in the seventies, apparently has several thousand members, drawn from all the country's communities. Over the past 2 years the head of state's brother had turned it into a tool for extending his influence in intellectual circles and business circles. It was in danger of being seen as a rival institution to the party, which President Hafiz al-Asad and his entourage could no longer tolerate.

In mid-April, the head of state asked his brother to cancel a Rabitah meeting at Damascus University and the banquet which was to follow at the officer's club. Mr Rifa't al-Asad obeyed but nonetheless managed to have those festivities replaced by a dinner in a big hotel. During that dinner he delivered a speech which seriously annoyed the president. Indeed Mr Rifa't al-Asad presented himself as the head of state's heir, he launched an appeal for economic liberalization, and tried to clear the defense companies of all responsibility in the repression of the Muslim Brotherhood in Hama in 1982, laying the blame on his opponents.

This was not the first or the last time that the leader of the defense companies had expressed positions so unlike the official policy. For instance, in private, especially to Western diplomats, Mr Rifa't al-Asad readily declares himself to be in favor of an arrangement with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, or of an open-door policy by Syria toward the West. He is apparently also critical of Damascus' involvement in Lebanon.

An Attack on Mr Khaddam

Is the Syrian president's brother busy paying for his rather bold gambles? Probably. But at this stage it is very difficult to know whether the measures aimed at him — including his appointment as vice president, together with Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Mr Zuhayr Mashariqah, last March — mean he is gradually being pushed to one side or whether his purgatory is simply intended to clear him and appease his opponents. At all events he is following the developments of the situation very closely. He has apparently made several return journeys between Geneva and Damascus, and regularly sends some of his officers who followed him to Switzerland (some 200 members of his entourage are at present in that country) on fact-finding trips.

President al-Asad, for his part, has so far carefully avoided giving his three vice presidents any order of precedence. For instance around 10 ambassadors are still waiting to present their credentials, a matter of protocol which should normally fall to one of those three men. In these circumstances there is virtually no chance of Mr Rifa't al-Asad replying soon to the official invitation sent to him by the French Government, and, moreover, no date has been fixed.

We must therefore wait for the Ba'th Party Congress, preparations for which have already begun at local and regional level, to see things more clearly. At all events this congress should reflect President Hafiz al-Asad's desire to introduce some homogeneity into the political and military institutions, and increase the centralization of power around a core of prominent people chosen for their exclusive loyalty to the head of state and the party.

If the question of a possible successor to the president is then raised, it will be settled within the framework of party institutions, to ensure that the future heir has real legitimacy. Despite his recent setbacks, Rifa't al-Asad is still regarded as the favorite by many observers. But Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the head of state's trusted foreign policy aide, is also mentioned. He is also seen as a man of compromise, and has the advantage, in the eyes of the military, of having no militia or army fighting units behind him although he is on good terms with the president's comrades in arms.

However Mr Khaddam escaped an attack on 10 July. A booby-trapped car exploded without killing anybody on the route followed by his cortege when he was returning from Bludan, a small resort not far from the Syrian-Lebanese border. This episode has not yet been elucidated.

11th Knesset Opens 13 Aug; Delegates Take Oath

TA131508 [Editorial Report] Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew, Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew, and Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew at 1252 GMT on 13 August begin a live relay of the opening of the 11th Knesset session in Jerusalem. President Herzog opens the session at 1304 GMT and invites the doyen of the Knesset Members [MK's], the National Religious Party's Dr Yosef Burg, to take the first oath and assume office as the acting Knesset speaker. Herzog then exhorts the Knesset, as the representative and reflection of the people, to maintain dignity, honor, and self-respect, and to observe basic human rights and justice in accordance with the law.

Herzog concludes his speech at 1318 GMT, at which point Acting Speaker MK Burg mounts the podium and says that, although the election results make it difficult to determine who won and who lost, he nevertheless urges that a national consensus on public matters be found and that co-existence be promoted wherever there are divisions among the people. He ends his address at 1324 GMT, and then says that he will read the pledge of allegiance to the state and the Knesset, and that as the Knesset secretary reads the names of the 120 MK's in alphabetical order, they should stand up and repeat the words: "I pledge."

Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew terminates its live coverage at 1329 GMT, and resumes normal programming.

The MK's who take the oath are as follows: Aharon Abu-Hatzira, Abba Eban, Refa'el Edri, Ehud Olmert, Mikha'el Eytan, Refa'el Eytan, Shulamit Aloni, 'Adi'el Amoray, Ya'aqov-Jacques Amir, Shoshana Arbeli-Almozlino, Nava Arad, Yoram Aridor, Moshe Arens, Yitzhaq Artzi, Charlie Biton, Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, Dov Ben-Me'ir, Mordekhay Bar-On.

Hayim Bar-Lev, 'Uzi Bar'am, Gid'on Gadot, Pinhas Goldstein, Mordekhay Gur, Miryam Glazer-Ta'asa, Haya Grossman, Pesah Grupper, El'azar Granot, Sara Doron, Simcha Dinitz, David Danino, Mikha'el Deqel, 'Abd al-Wahab Darawshah, Hayim Druckman, Yiga'el Hurvitz, Menahem Hakohen, Shlomo Hilel, Zvulun Hammer, Aharon Har'el.

Shevah Weiss, Me'ir Wilner, Ari'el Weinstein, 'Ezer Weizman, Mordekhay Virshubsky, Eli'ezer Waldman, Avraham Verdiger, Muhammad Watad, Tawfiq Zayyad (who pledges in Arabic), Yitzhaq Zeiger, Mikha'el Harish, Tawfiq Tubi (who is called but is absent), Ya'aqov Yosef, Gad Ya'aqobi, Ge'ula Kohen, Yig'al Kohen, Ran Kohen, Meir Kahane (who insists on adding "with God's help" and a verse from Ecclesiastes but is given another chance to swear his oath at the end of the session, which he does, as witnessed by MK's Hurvitz and Milo who are sitting next to him,) Me'ir Kohen-Avidov, Yig'al Kohen-Orgad.

Avraham Katz-'Oz, David Levi, David Liba'i, Uri'el Lynn, Amnon Lynn, 'Uzi Landau, David Magen, Yitzhaq Moda'i, Roni Milo, Muhammad Mi'ari, Yehoshu'a Matza, Dan Meridor, Yuval Ne'eman, Yitzhaq Navon, Aharon-Refa'el Nahmias, Arye Nehamkin, Ora Namir, Moshe Nisim, Amal Nasir Ad-Din, 'Edna Solodar.

Amira Sartani, Zaydan 'Atshah, 'Ovadya Eli, Shlomo 'Amar, Matityahu Peled, Refa'el Pinhasi, Menahem Porush, Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Peretz, Yitzhaq-Hayim Peretz, Gid'on Pat, Ya'ir Tzaban, Ya'aqov Tzur, Eli'ezer Kulas, Hayim Kaufman, Hayim Corfu, Yisra'el Qeysar, Moshe Qatzav, Yitzhaq Rabin, Amnon Rubinstein, Nahman Raz.

Mikha'el Reisser, Hayim Ramon, Avner-Hay Sciaky, Eli'ezer Shostak, Moshe Shahal, Me'ir Shitrit, Dov Shilansky, Efrayim Shalom, Beni Shalita, Shim'on Shlomo, Victor Shem-Tov, Yitzhaq Shamir, Gershon Shafat, Eliyahu Speiser, Avraham-Yosef Shapira, Ari'el Sharon, Yosi Sarid, Avraham Sharir, Dan Tikhon.

The ceremony ends with Burg reading a letter by President Herzog which notes that Shim'on Peres has been assigned the task of forming the next government. Jerusalem Television Service ends its live relay of the session at 1340 GMT, and Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew ends its relay at 1350 GMT.

Legal Ruling on Burg's Status

TA140731 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Aug 84 p 1

[Asher Wallfish report]

[Excerpt] The oldest Knesset member, Interior Minister Yosef Burg, should preside over only the opening session of the 11th Knesset, Knesset legal adviser Tzvi Inbar ruled yesterday in response to a query from Alignment whip Moshe Shahal.

'Inbar said that if Burg continued to hold the Speaker's chair for more than the opening session, even though titled Interim Speaker, he would be violating the law that bars a Cabinet Minister from becoming Knesset Speaker.

Knesset sources said that Attorney-General Yitzhaq Zamir agreed with 'Inbar's ruling.

This means that when the Knesset sits next, on September 3, according to Shahal, the second oldest MK, Abba Eban, may be called upon to chair the session.

'Inbar resolved that Burg's stepping down, which would obviate further violation of the law, should take priority over the precedent set up in the days of the late agriculture minister Qadish Luz. When Luz was elected Speaker but could not yet resign from his agriculture post, he simply stayed away from the ministry.

Weinberger To Pay Visit Within 2 Months

TA140455 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger will visit Israel within 2 months. This was learned by our correspondent in Washington Razi Barqay. This will be the first visit made by a top U.S. official following the Israeli elections. The visit will take place before the elections in the United States.

So far no agenda has been scheduled for the visit, and it is also not clear whether Weinberger will include other Middle East countries in his visit. Sources in Jerusalem told our political correspondent that so far they know nothing about such a visit.

Shamir Not Against U.S.-Arab Free Trade Talks

TA131724 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] U.S. Congressman Sam Gibbons says he hopes an American-Israeli agreement on free trade can be initialed by the end of September. Gibbons, who is leading a congressional delegation, met today with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and Trade and Commerce Minister Gid'on Pat in Jerusalem.

[Begin Gibbons recording] I don't think there's any serious problem that can't be worked out. There will be some small conflicts in the agricultural area, perhaps some in some of the manufacturing areas, but through phasing and staging we can work out these difficulties. [end recording]

Congressman Gibbons asked the prime minister if Israel would oppose similar American agreements with the Arab countries. Shamir replied that no one in Israel would oppose such a move.

MAPAM Leader Shem-Tov on Unity Government

TA101517 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 10 Aug 84 Weekend Supplement pp 5, 19

[Interview with MAPAM Secretary General Victor Shem-Tov by Levi Morav; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [*'AL HAMISHMAR*] Does MAPAM have red lines on such matters as the government's ideological leanings, its composition, its policies, as well as economic, foreign policy, and defense issues? If so, what are they?

[Shem-Tov] MAPAM has red lines regarding the type of government we would like to see set up, namely a narrowly-based government under the Alignment. Let me specify some:

— We will not allow any change in the religious status quo, which is difficult for us to accept as it is. We will not accept an amendment to the "Who Is a Jew" law.

— An Alignment-led government would have to ensure the resumption of the peace process by creating conditions to allow Jordan and the Palestinian delegates who recognize Israel and are not involved in terrorism to come to the negotiating table. This will unfreeze ties with Egypt, and will reintroduce the spirit of rapprochement and normalization to Israeli-Egyptian ties.

— One red line, as far as we are concerned, is the effort to bring the IDF back home from Lebanon quickly and to end the never ending war the Likud launched.

— Another MAPAM red line is a policy to restore economic health, but not at the expense of serious or prolonged unemployment. I do not accept the cliches that claim that it is possible to deal in the next 2 years only with economic issues and freeze the other matters I mentioned earlier. The economic, political, and security problems are interlinked, and therefore Israel needs a homogeneous government to conduct an overall, comprehensive policy.

[*'AL HAMISHMAR*] What is the division of power within MAPAM with respect to the question of a national unity government?

[Shem-Tov] There is a very broad consensus in MAPAM on the type of government we would like to see under the Alignment. We take seriously the degree of responsibility shouldered by MAPAM because without our six Knesset members, the Alignment has no edge over the Likud. I have noticed lately that every time the Labor Party leaders meet with Likud delegates, the latter ask: Why will MAPAM not join a government with us? It therefore follows that the Likud is evidently making its participation in a broadly-based government conditional on the participation of, of all things, MAPAM (otherwise known as the: "PLO'ists," "those who stick a knife in the nation's back," etc. etc.) This flatters us a great deal. My impression is that the Likud is playing games and that at least part of it has no intention of joining a government under Peres. I have been told that in this respect the Likud expects us to do the job for it. Thus, MAPAM has turned into Yitzhaq Shamir's only hope. I hope the cat is allowed out of the bag later on, and the Likud is disappointed. There are enough problems to torpedo a joint, yet paralyzed, Alignment-Likud government; no one can toss the ball into MAPAM's court.

[*'AL HAMISHMAR*] Do you believe that such ideologically disparate parties, such as revisionists and socialists, can set up a joint government?

[Shem-Tov] I think a national unity government is dangerous precisely for national reasons, not only for political-partisan considerations. The question is whether the Labor movement ought to pay the ideological, political, and moral price for joining a party that favors the alternative answer. To my mind, the historical price paid has been very grave. As I said before, we regard the demand for such a broadly-based government as dangerous, precisely for the national reasons. We have been told that one thing and its polar opposite should both be introduced into the government, in order to mend fences. I cannot believe that if Victor Shem-Tov embraces Arik Sharon every morning around the Cabinet table, that this will bridge the gaps among the people, as the people are divided in their attitude toward the burning issues on our national agenda.

[*'AL HAMISHMAR*] What is MAPAM's position on the coalition negotiations and the possibility of establishing a national unity government? Where do things stand right now?

[Shem-Tov] The stage that began immediately after election day and ended with the president's decision to assign Shi'mon Peres the task of forming a government is now over; the second stage — a critical stage in the effort to give Israel the kind of government it needs — has now begun. Before I answer your question about where we stand at present, I would like to refute assessments voiced by politicians from all camps regarding the way the voters' will was expressed on 23 July 1984. Every party has its own voters, and every party has its own view of the "will of the people." I do not believe that the people wanted several governments to be established. On the contrary, judging by the balloting, a large part of the nation announced that it wants the Likud policy to continue, whereas a slightly larger part showed its desire for an alternative government. Those who say that the representatives of continuity and the representatives of change should be grouped together in one room in order to turn them into a "unity" government are asking for a government that will represent neither continuity nor change; rather it will represent a debilitating freeze.

The issue of a unity government has actually become a myth, reminiscent of a fetish in countries where the people are prone to hysterics or mass psychosis. This is no longer an ideological matter, but a mythological issue in which logical analysis does not apply. The word unity arouses emotions among good, honest citizens. As for me, the word unity expands horizons, whereas with politicians — or rather in the political establishment, the phrase: "national unity government" is nothing but lip service uttered for the sake of scoring substantive achievements and extorting heavily from the administration.

That is why MAPAM announced on Tuesday in a very frank and cordial meeting with the Labor Party, that it wishes Peres well and authorizes him to make efforts to form a stable government on the basis of the Alignment's platform. It expressed its consent to let the prime minister-designate approach any party he wants to — although MAPAM does not believe that it is possible to establish a joint Alignment-Likud government because they represent such different stands on economic affairs, social matters, policy, and security issues.

We believe it is necessary to try to establish a narrow government led by the Alignment, and after that government is presented to the Knesset, it may be possible to make further efforts to broaden its parliamentary basis. This is where we stand right now.

[*'AL HAMISHMAR*] What is MAPAM's view of the Yosi Sarid formula, [tacit, nonbinding support for a national unity government] a formula that would make it possible to set up a national unity governemnt?

[Shem-Tov] The Yosi Sarid formula applies to himself alone. He is not authorized to speak on MAPAM's behalf, and I was happy to hear from him that this is his own personal formula only. It is unacceptable to us. At this point we would not like to commit ourselves to any operational move to be undertaken should a unity government be established. We would not like to present any ultimatums; we want to make the prime minister-designate's job of forming the government as easy as possible. As I said, we are hoping that it will be a narrow government, but if we are presented with an agreement, or when we feel that an agreement is about to be reached on the composition of some sort of government, the MAPAM institutions will convene to decide what their attitude toward such a government will be. Naturally, this decision will be affected by earlier resolutions on the matter, which are binding on us, as well as by the political situation created in Israel following the election.

I do not think that an Alignment-Likud government could stabilize parliamentary democracy and prevent the danger of dictatorship. The new government will not be able to decide anything, except not to decide. And should it decide something, one side will try to sabotage the other in implementing the resolution. This will be a government of havoc, which will discredit the democratic system. Furthermore, it will damage the prestige and standing of parliament, which relies on the existence of a government countered by a strong, serious opposition. A unity government means the end of the opposition, which in turn will deal a serious blow to parliament and its purpose.

[*'AL HAMISHMAR*] Some people believe that in fact there are no great differences between the Likud and the Alignment. What do you think?

[Shem-Tov] I disagree with this thesis, and it is precisely this thesis that leads to a national unity government. The propaganda during the election in fact prepared the ground for joining with the Likud in a joint government. This, too, is a price we are paying for the ideological smokescreen.

Kahane's Men Barred From Entering Shefar'am

TA140732 Jerusalem THE JERUSAELM POST in English 14 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] Shefar'am [ITIM] — The police yesterday prevented about 20 KAKH movement supporters from entering Shefar'am and cleaning up its ancient Jewish cemetery. When informed that the KAKH followers were coming to the town, the police asked Town Hall whether it opposed their entry.

Mayor Ibrahim Nimr Husayn said that anybody could visit the town, but not people coming as representatives of Knesset Member Meir Kahane. According to Qol Yisra'el, Husayn promised to have the cemetery cleaned this week.

Anti-Racism Demonstration Held Opposite Knesset

TA131520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Approximately 2,000 people demonstrated opposite the Knesset building against racism in Israel and against Meir Kahane, the new Knesset member. After the demonstration, the participants gathered at the nearby memorial garden for Emil Grunzweig [killed in the Peace Now demonstration against the war in Lebanon].

Ne'eman To Push for Additional Settlements

TA130631 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Aug 84 pp 1, 8

[Excerpt] Science and Development Minister Yuval Ne'eman, who heads the joint Ministerial-World Zionist Organization Settlement Committee, said after the committee met yesterday that he hopes to convene the body again in a fortnight to decide on the establishment of up to five more settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

He also maintained he would not be deflected in his efforts by the Cabinet's transitional status.

Ne'eman told reporters he had hoped to present plans for one or two more settlements at yesterday's meeting in Jerusalem, but legal matters and examinations of the possibility of establishing those settlements had not been completed.

More Trailers Reported Gathered in Hebron

TA140810 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Aug 84 p 2

[Yehuda Litani report]

[Excerpt] Last night sources in Hebron reported that the settlement established last week in Khirbat ar-Rumaythah in the middleof Hebron was the first in a plan to establish a further three or four in the heart of the town, on land that had been under Jewish ownership up to 1935 and was transferred to the custodian of annexed assets during the Jordanian period.

The defense minister's adviser on settlement affairs, Uri Bar-On, is currently gathering together additional trailers in the town, and the Hebron settlers are now waiting for legal approval as well as other approvals from security elements. They want to complete the current settlement projects before Yitzhaq Shamir's caretaker government ends its time in office, because if a national unity government is established, they fear the Labor Party will adamantly oppose these projects.

The settlers are receiving every possible assistance from the Israeli mayor of Hebron (a Civilian Administration officer) as well as Defense Minister Prof Moshe Arens, who thinks a large Jewish town [qirya] should be established in Hebron.

Jewish Council Denounces Anti-Settlement Protest

TA120610 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] The Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea and Samaria says that demonstrations against settlement in Hebron is tantamount to allowing the shedding of Jewish blood.

The council expressed amazement at the decision by the military authorities to allow the Citizens Rights Movement members to demonstrate in Hebron yesterday.

Territories Coordinator on Political Activity

TA131435 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1352 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Arab notables in the territories have recently attempted to renew activity by the national guidance committee there. Shmu'el Goren, the coordinator of activities in the territories, reported this today and said that these attempts will be immediately stopped. We will not allow this to continue, he told our correspondent Gil Ronen. We have already taken steps to nip this in the bud.

Further Report

TA131652 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The coordinator of activities in the territories has said that a number of Arab notables are trying to re-establish an organization resembling the National Guidance Committee. Shmu'el Goren, the coordinator of activities in the territories, said the security forces have already taken measures to stop the re-establishment of this organization. Our correspondent Gil Ronen attended a news conference held by the coordinator of activities in the territories:

[Begin Ronen recording] Activities aimed at re-establishing coordinating groups throughout the territories are taking place with the purpose of forming an organization resembling the National Guidance Committee. This was said today by Shmu'el Goren, coordinator of activities in the territories, who added that a number of Arab notables in the territories are meeting on this, some of whom were previously identified with the National Guidance Committee. We have already taken steps to nip this in the bud, the coordinator stated. In the future we will take various additional steps. In the past we declared the National Guidance Committee illegal; we will not allow this organization to return, he stated.

At the same time, contacts to find Arab mayors for the four cities which now have appointed mayors are continuing. Shmu'el Goren is ready to negotiate with all Arab leaders in the territories, except for a very small gruop whom he called hopeless nationalists. He holds meetings with clergymen, Communists, and PLO supporters, including extremists, as he put it.

The coordinator said he believes the relative quiet in the territories has been continuing in recent months. He cited information indicating a decline in rock-throwing incidents. In June 1984, for instance, there were 81 incidents involving stone-throwing, compared to 143 in June 1983. Shmu'el Goren explained this relative quiet as resulting from the poor condition of the PLO, and the disappointment felt by inhabitants of the territories, caused by — among other things — the Israeli election results. [end recording]

Goren on Reopening of An-Najah University

TA131734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Jerry Cheslow report — recorded]

[Excerpt] As for the Nabulus An-Najah University, closed by military order for 4 months, Shmu'el Goren [coordinator of activities in the territories] said it would not be allowed to reopen early. He showed a pamphlet confiscated from a Palestine heritage fair on campus 2 weeks ago. It was a guide to preparing explosives. Goren said that he had received telegrams arguing that political activity should be allowed inside the campus, as long as it does not spill over on to the street. But, he said, this kind of material shows that it's not just a matter of location, but of substance.

Druze Shaykh Denies Approving Boycott

TA121249 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1220 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] Julis, 12 Aug (ITIM) — An investigation by security personnel reveals that the extremist leadership on the Golan Heights obtained an exact list of Golan Druze having Israeli identity cards by studying the voters registration lists. With this list, the extremists then demanded that those Golan Druze be boycotted.

The ITIM correspondent reports that Shaykh Amin Tarif, the elderly spiritual leader of the Druze sect in Israel, has announced that the religious boycott against those with Israeli citizenship on the Golan Heights has not been put into effect with his agreement and furthermore is against his beliefs and views.

Dr Nisim Dana, the director of the Ministry of Religious Affairs Druze Department and Religious Affairs, Golan Heights, today told the ITIM correspondent that Shaykh Tarif's statement is particularly significant because it proves that the publications by the leaders of the religious extremists on the Golan Heights which state that Shaykh Tarif supports them are complete lies.

Pro-Israeli Druze Want Action

TA130629 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2045 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] Golan Heights, 12 Aug (ITIM) — Pro-Israeli Druze on the Golan Heights yesterday evening launched a struggle against the activity of pro-Syrian Golan Druze who have imposed a boycott on Israel's sympathizers there.

In a telegram they sent to the prime minister and to the defense and interior ministers, the Druze say that if Israel does not stand on their side, there will be an impression that they have committed a crime by siding with Israel.

In the telegram, the Druze note that this last boycott received the blessing of Shaykh Amin Tarif, the spiritual leader of the Israeli Druze, and they demand an immediate declaration from the State of Israel that it will take every possible step to eliminate this phenomenon.

The telegram is signed by Salman abu Salah, one of the leaders of the pro-Israeli Golan Druze, who is speaking on behalf of 300 inhabitants.

Tarif Denies Boycott Support

TA140944 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Aug 84 p 11

[Menahem Rahat report]

[Text] The spiritual leader of the Druze sect of Israel, the elderly Shaykh Amin Tarif, denied for the first time yesterday the existence of a letter he was said to have written himself containing a call for a boycott of the Druze who accepted Israeli citizenship. In his view, the letter attributed to him may have been a forgery.

Shaykh Amin Tarif left quickly for the Golan Heights last night and is staying at a sacred site near Baniyas. He summoned Druze clerics from the Golan Heights and dignitaries from the Druze villages, ordering them to announce publicly that there was no connection between Israeli citizenship and a religious boycott. He explained that, from the religious viewpoint, it was forbidden to mix religion and politics, and so there was no room for the imposition of a religious boycott to achieve political goals.

At the same time, the Shaykh said he understood the feelings of the Druze on the Golan Heights who feared that if they were forced to accept Israeli citizenship they would have to serve in the IDF; this is something they do not want, in view of their delicate situation.

Shaykh Tarif promised his audience that his commitment to deal with the nonrecruitment of Druze from the Golan Heights into the IDF remains.

Representatives of people from the Golan Heights bearing Israeli citizenship again expressed their hope that the government, which had to date been indifferent to them, would awaken and stand openly at their side and prove to the inhabitants of the Golan Heights that it paid to be a citizen of Israel.

West Bank Population Growth Reported

TA140955 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Aug 84 p 2

[Yitzhaq Dish report]

[Text] Over the last 3 years there has been an acceleration in the population growth of Judaea and Samaria and the Gaza District, and the negative balance of emigration there has decreased. These findings emerge from a review of the economic developments in Judaea and Samaria conducted by the Bank of Israel.

At the end of 1982 the population of Judaea and Samaria and Gaza was 224,000 people, of whom about 748,000 were in Judaea and Samaria and some 476,000 in the Gaza District. [figures in sentence as published] In 1981 and 1982 the average rate of growth was about 2.1 percent annually, after a slower rate during the second half of the 1970's, of about 1.9 percent annually.

The editor of the review, Dan Zakay, says that the acceleration in the population growth originates mainly in the decrease of the negative emigration balance by about 10,000 people in 1982 and a distinct drop in mortality rates. In that year the population of Judaea and Samaria increased at an accelerated rate of 1.6 percent annually and that of the Gaza District increased by 2.9 percent.

The negative balance of emigration in Judaea and Samaria totalled 22,400 people in 1980, 21,000 people in 1981, 11,000 in 1982 and, according to a preliminary estimate, in 1983 it dropped to only 4,000 people.

It should be noted that a significant negative balance of emigration has characterized Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District since the early 1950's. Most of the emigrants are working youths.

The Bank of Israel review notes that swings in emigration are connected with the economic situation in Israel, the Arab countries, and the areas themselves. For many years emigration acted as a brake on unemployment because it drained off a section of the surplus manpower that had not found suitable employment in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District.

One of the most outstanding findings of the review is the increase in the number of inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District who are employed in the construction industry in Israel. The increase is about 8 percent annually.

The Bank of Israel review also states that in 1981 and 1982 the rapid economic development in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District was curbed after a period of deceleration at the end of the 1970's. The gap between the pace of the economic growth of these economies and the rates of growth of the Israeli economy was closed. During those 2 years the gross national product did not increase and the regional product dropped by about 1 percent a year. While the rate of emigration was reduced, the rate of population growth in working-age groups was accelerated and the rate of participation in the work force increased.

Pakistani Pressure for Recognition Reported

TA140837 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Aug 84 p 2

["Exclusive" from London by Sha'ul Tzadqa]

[Text] Several members of the Pakistani Majlis-i-Shoora (Federal Advisory Council) are putting pressure on Ziaul Haq, demanding that he recognize Israel and establish diplomatic relations with it. Diplomatic sources commenting in London have said this is an unprecedented move in a devout Moslem country prominent in its traditional hostility toward Israel. This has been learned by the *HA'ARETZ* correspondent.

The Pakistani politicians think the consistent support for the Palestinian cause has not benefitted the country at all — and this includes financially — while recognition of Israel would pave the way for large-scale U.S. aid, closer links with Congress, and an improvement of relations with the West as a whole.

A source in the Pakistani Foreign Affairs Ministry did not deny that there were elements in the country that were interested in links with Israel, but he dismissed them as a "handful of intellectuals." Even the semiofficial paper Karachi *JASARAT* admitted in an editorial that "in the wake of a report by the U.S. Administration and submitted to the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, several of the Majlis members expressed their support for the recognition of Israel."

According to the paper, this position is arousing a storm among the country's Muslim groups and the opponents of Haq's regime. These groups claim that "Israel is not only an enemy of the Palestinians, but also that of all Islam, and the borders of Greater Eretz Yisra'el, which are supported by several Israeli leaders, also include Mecca and Medina."

The paper even saw fit to ask: "What guarantee is there that there will be anything given in return for recognition? And will the Israelis condescend to grant Pakistan similar, genuine recognition?" The writer claims that "history proves that the Jews have never recognized Islam and its believers."

Opponents of the new initiative in the Majlis claim that after Israel destroyed the nuclear reactor in Iraq, it did not conceal its desire to destroy the Pakistani reactor as well if it had the ability to manufacture a bomb. They claim the initiators want to follow in the footsteps of Sri Lanka's conciliatory policy toward Israel, with the goal of receiving financial and military aid.

Sources Deny Syrian Report of Drone Incident

TA121029 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] Syria says it has shot down an Israeli pilotless plane. The Syrians say the drone fell in the (Patrun) hills east of Tripoli in northern Lebanon, in territory controlled by the Syrian Army. The incident allegedly took place yesterday. The Syrians also say they sent a helicopter to collect the fragments of the drone, but Israeli military sources say they know nothing about the incident.

New Plan To Encourage Tourism From Egypt

TA130904 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Aug 84 p 3

[Zohar Blumenkranz report]

[Excerpt] The Tourism Ministry and tourism elements are preparing for the new possibility of bringing tourists from Egypt with the help of the U.S. and French Governments. A new Israeli plan to encourage tourism from Egypt will be discussed in a meeting today between representatives of the ministry and El-Al.

This special plan was prepared following a brief visit to Egypt last week by the director of the Tourism Promotion Department in the Tourism Ministry, Efrayim Dinur. The plan has been passed on for the approval of Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, and its details have so far been kept secret to avoid disrupting the administrative procedures connected with the necessary permits and licenses from the Egyptian authorities. Despite this, it was learned yesterday that among other things the plan talks about the establishment of a new marketing center in the Egyptian capital.

Body of IDF Soldier Discovered in Samaria

TA120434 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] The body of an IDF soldier, which had marks of violence, was discovered in the center of Samaria. The IDF spokesman reports that the body was discovered the day before yesterday in an orchard near the settlement of Mevo Dotan in Samaria. The family of the dead soldier has been notified. The security forces have begun investigating the circumstances of his death in the center of Samaria. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that no arms or documents were found next to the soldier's body. An initial check has indicated that the soldier was killed approximately 24 hours before his body was found.

IDF Prevents Tyre Refugee Camps Disturbances

TA140727 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0530 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 13 Aug (ITIM) — Many people from the refugee camps in the Tyre area have threatened to break into the UNRWA warehouses if they do not receive all the food and commodities they have requested. ITIM correspondent in the north Shlomo Hadad has learned that representatives of the IDF liason unit met with members of the refugee committee yesterday and asked them to avoid taking these actions.

Early this week UNRWA representatives appealed to officers of the liaison unit to help them overcome the hostile actions of the representatives of the Burj ash-Shamali, Ar-Rashidiyah, and (Al-Buss) refugee camps as they were threatening to break into stores and warehouses and demolish them completely unless they received food. As noted, members of the liaison unit intervened in the matter and managed for the time being to prrevent a break-in into the offices.

It was reported that intensive discussions regarding the refugees' concerns will be held in the next few days. These discussions will address whether a decision should be made to give the refugees more food or to maintain the status quo.

Belgium Purchases Israeli Naval System

TA140847 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Aug 84 p 11

[Dalya Sharon report from London]

[Text] A system for naval combat training manufactured by the (Elbit) Company has recently been handed over to the Belgian Army. With the aid of computers, the system has a simulation capability of battle situations suitable for the Belgian Navy. The system contains two units, each of which simulates a ship, and a joint control chamber.

Two Bulgarian Stowaways Enter Country Illegally

TA131528 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1445 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 13 Aug (ITIM) — The case of two Bulgarian citizens, who arrived in Haifa on board an Italian ship, was debated today at the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court, where it was suggested that the two entered Israel illegally.

The police representative requested that the two — (Georg Nochev),39, and (Dmitri Khatchkov), 39 — be remanded. The representative told the court that the stowaways reported to the Ramat Gan police yesterday, saying they were in Israel illegally and had arrived last Friday.

He noted that they are citizens of a Communist country and should be expelled from Israel, which was why he asked that they be held in detention for an additional 10 days, until the police arrange their expulsion with the Interior Ministry.

Attorney Aharon Schlanger volunteered to serve as their lawyer, and told the court that the stowaways had fled Bulgaria by sneaking on board various means of transportation, which is how they reached Haifa unaccounted for or as stowaways.

According to Attorney Schlanger, one of them had an address of a friend of his mother, a Bulgarian who resides in the Hadar Yosef neighborhood of Tel Aviv, which is where the two stayed, and with whom they appeared at the Ramat Gan Police station.

Schlanger asked that the two be released on bail, and that the court allow them to stay with the family friend until the Interior Ministry decides their case.

Judge Henia Stein decided to hold the two in custody for 24 hours, during which time the woman will be brought to court to learn whether she will allow the two to stay with her until their case is resolved.

Finance Committee Approves Budget Adjustment

TA131429 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The Knesset Finance Committee has approved the adjustment to the state budget for the second quarter of this year. At the last meeting, which was called by Finance Committee Chairman Shlomo Lorincz, the majority attending were current coalition members. Only two Alignment members attended the meeting; they voted against the Finance Ministry's proposal.

At the moment the committee is approving some additional transfers of funds for several items in the state budget. It will end its session just before the 11th Knesset convenes for the first time.

ALGERIA

Al-Qadhdhafi Arrives for Short Visit

LD131925 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Algiers at 1930 on a short visit. He was welcomed at Houari Boumediene International Airport by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party; Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee; Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the Political Bureau and prime minister; M'Hamed Yala, member of the Political Bureau and minister of interior; and Bachir Rouis, alternate member of the Political Bureau and minister of information.

Bendjedid, Al-Qadhdhafi Hold Discussions

LD132238 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Private talks were held this evening at Jinan al-Mithaq Villa between President Chadli Bendjedid and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The talks were later extended to members of the two delegations. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Algiers for a short visit early this evening.

Bendjedid Sees Off Al-Qadhdhafi

LD141225 Algiers APS in English 1146 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Algiers, 14 Aug 84 (APS) — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, head of the Libyan revolution left today Algiers at the end of a short visit during which he had talks with President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN Party secretary general. The head of the Libyan revolution was seen off at the airport by President Chadli Bendjedid, as well as Politburo members and high officials from the party and state.

President Receives Phone Call From Hassan

LD131816 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, received this afternoon a telephone call form King Hassan II of Morroco. We remind you that the president telephoned today the Syrian president, Hafiz al-Asad.

Briefs

Approval of Ambassador to Burundi — Algiers, 11 Aug 84 (APS) — The Burundian Government gave its assent for the appointment of Mr Salah Fellah as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria to the Republic of Burundi. [Text] [Algiers APS in English 1137 GMT 11 Aug 84 LD]

Ambassador to Madagascar Approved — Algiers, 11 Aug 84 (APS) — The Madagascar Government agreed on the appointment of Mr Hocine Meghlaoui as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria to the Democratic Republic of Madagascar. [Text] [Algiers APS in English 1138 GMT 11 Aug 84 LD]

LIBYA

Export of Revolution to Arab States Threatened

LD132037 Tripoli JANA in English 1809 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqidah 16, August 13, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY — *AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR* newspaper, published by the revolutionary committees has discussed the new theatrical play in the Suez and the southern entrance of the Red Sea. The paper said: For a long time now, we have given successive opportunities to the existing governments in the Arab homeland, holding dialogues with them in their capitals, while they are dealing with the American black house and the Zionist Knesset, calling on them to liberate Palestine while these same governments give up their capitals to NATO and American forces and fleets, to multi-national monopolies and open the doors before the series of American and Zionist aggression, to occupy and destroy the rest of the Arab region, to create fictitious justifications and ridiculous plays so as to justify the building up of imperialist military presence in the Arab homeland that would ensure control over its resources and strategic doors such as the Red Sea, the Mediterranean and the Suez Gulf. The shelling of Omdurman radio station, the mining of the Red Sea and Suez Gulf, all these pre-paid operations are meant to impose more colonialist Western hegemony over the Arab region, a process made easy thanks to the treason of its reactionary governments, with all of which, revolutionary forces held dialogues inside their palace, whether kings, presidents or heads of opposition parties. We have explained to them the dimensions of the imperialist Zionist criminal plan against the Arab nation and have sent them letters, cables and envoys with the hope of their realising victory for their Arabism, backing the steadfastness of Syria and the Lebanese national resistance, opening their borders which overlook Palestine before Arab fedayeen action and formulating at least a framework for a joint Arab action through which Arab military, material and human resources would be deployed in resisting the Hebraic tyranny and the 10th crusade. But there was no reply. What would have happened if these governments, their kings and president, had fulfilled once only their promises to Jamahiriyah?

The Zionist gangs would have been then a thing of the past and the U.S. would have had its face crushed on the ground of the Arab nation, facing total collapse and seeing its arms factories, specialised in choosing Arab victims, completly closed down as a result of Arab oil and material boycotting. Then it would have been unlikely that As-Sadat had gone to the end of the road of treason, together with his associates and successors. The Zionist would have never invaded Lebanon and Palestinian resistance would have still deployed its military bases in the Lebanon. Had these governments fulfilled their promises, Sinai, the Golan and the West Bank would have been liberated, Egypt would have never committed high treason against its Arab nation, the Zionist gangs would have never hit the Iraqi nuclear reactor nor committed the Sabra and Shatila massacre nor evicted the land, sea and air resistance from Lebanon, American bases would have never spread in Egypt, Sudan, Oman and Somalia. Had these governments responded to the nationalist initiatives proposed by the revolutionary forces, many situations would have changed. The road before the Zionist death train roaming the Arab homeland would at least have been difficult if not impossible. Several borders, checkpoints would have been removed and the nucleus of the united nationalist state for the Arab [as received] would have been established. Arab money would have been flourishing in Tunisia, Yemen, Sudan and Mauritania instead of doing so in banks and palaces of the colonialist West.

There is one last chance for these governments until the forthcoming Al Fatih of September to redeem themselves for the treason, crimes and ineffectivness throughout a whole period of decadence, or else we'll deal with them through the only real way — by exporting revolution and revolutionary violence, after having dealt with them for a long time on erroneous bases, losing in the process several opportunities to take revenge from and topple them.

MAURITANIA

French Adviser Penne Departs After Visit

AB131700 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Guy Penne, French presidential adviser for African affairs, left Nouakchott today at the end of his visit to Mauritania. Mr Penne, who arrived in Nouakchott on Saturday, was seen off upon his departure by Mohamed Abdelrahmane Ould Seibott, permanent under secretary to the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] and head of state, Bernard Lopinot, French ambassador to Mauritania, and Daouda (Bi), press adviser at the office of the head of state. Before leaving Mauritania, Guy Penne spoke to our colleague Mamadou (N'Diaye): [Begin recording] My visit, although brief, was very busy. During this visit — which was climaxed by my meeting with President Haydala — I was able to meet the acting minister of foreign affairs and the permanent member of the CMSN. I also visited some projects. After visiting these projects, we held a working session yesterday afternoon. We also met the regional commandant in charge of the Regional Commission for Mass Education. [end recording]

MOROCCO

Al-Qadhdhafi, King Fahd to Join Summit on Sahara

LD131211 Kuwait KUNA in English 0954 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, Aug 13 (KUNA) — Moroccan King Hassan II and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid will meet within the next 24 hours, it was learnt Monday. The meeting will be held on the borders between the two North African Arab countries. The meeting will be the second held with the aim of reaching a settlement for the Western Sahara crisis. The first meeting took place in February 26, 1983, but no specific results were achieved at that time. Although bilateral relations improved after the first summit, they later relapsed. The new meeting is a fruit of intensive Arab mediations and bilateral contacts. It is also being held following a proposal by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on resolving the Sahara crisis within the framework of the Greater Arab (?Maghreb).

Sources here told — KUNA that the meeting will later be joined by Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the Saudi monarch King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The border meeting expected to take place today will be the first attempt of its kind to solve the Sahara conflict. The quadripartite mini-summit follows extensive contacts between the Moroccan, Saudi and Libyan capitals where diplomats shuttled for weeks. The move was in response to a proposal by the Libyan leader to seek a solution to the problem within an Arab framework. The summit is being arranged in a border town due to the absence of diplomatic relations between Morocco and Algeria.

Al-Qadhdhafi Arrives for Talks

LD131234 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the 1 September Revolution, arrived in Morocco this morning. The Libyan leader arrived at Oujda-Angads Airport where he was welcomed by His Majesty King Hassan II, who had arrived in Oujda earlier. His majesty the king was accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed and His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rashed. Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani, the ministers of state, Interior Minister Driss Basri, Foreign Minister Abdelouahed Belkziz, Information Minister Dr Abdellatif Filali, Minister of the Royal Household, Protocol and Medals Gen Moulay Abdelhafid Alaoui and the counsellors of His Majesty Ahmed Reda Guedira and Ahmed Bin Souda were also at the airport to welcome the Libyan president. The Libyan president was accompanied by an important Libyan ministerial delegation.

After that the procession left Angads Airport for Oujda where the talks between his majesty the king and Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi began in closed session at the place where his majesty the king is staying in Oujda.

Jallud Joins Al-Qadhdhafi

LD131443 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Member of the Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah leadership 'Abd as-Salam Jallud arrived midday today in Oujda city. 'Abd as-Salam Jallud joined Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who has been in Oujda city since this morning, in which he conducted a first round of talks with His Majesty King Hassan II.

Al-Qadhdhafi Visit Detailed

LD131959 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammaar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, today paid a working visit to Morocco during which he met His Majesty King Hassan II to follow up the march of fraternal cooperation and solidarity between the two fraternal countries. This meeting between the leaders of the two countries took place in the town of Oujda where his majesty arrived in the morning by train from Fes.

Soon afterwards the Libyan leader arrived at Angads Airport from Tripoli on board a special plane. His majesty was at the airport to welcome his distinguished guest. The king was accompanied by the crown prince, Sidi Mohamed, and by His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rashed. Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani; Minister of the Royal Household, Protocol, and Medals General Moulay Abdelhafid Alaoui; the counsellors of his majesty, Ahmed Reda Guedira and Ahmed Bin Souda were also at the airport to welcome the Libyan leader.

As soon as the Libyan leader arrived, Moroccan-Libyan talks began. These talks were held at the his majesty's residence in Oujda, in private between his majesty and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Afterwards, his majesty hosted a luncheon in honor of his distinguished guest, attended by Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed, by Prince Moulay Rashed, by the prime minister, by members of the government accompanying his majesty, and by several military and civilian figures.

After that the two delegations went to the Oujda Governorate where the ceremony of signing the Moroccan-Libyan agreement took place between His Majesty King Hassan II and the Libyan leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. After the signing of the agreement the leader of the 1 September Revolution left the town of Oujda for Algiers. At Angads Airport he was seen off by his majesty, accompanied by Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed, and Prince Moulay Rashed, as well as by Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani, the ministers of state, the interior, foreign affairs, transport, and information.

We point out that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was accompanied by an important ministerial delegation which included 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the leadership in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Libyan-Moroccan Union Envisaged

LD141331 Kuwait KUNA in English 1302 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, Aug 14 (KUNA) — A union is to be called between Libya and Morocco following Monday's meeting between heads of states of the two countries, according to a joint statement released here and in Tripoli.

Municipal, Provincial Election Results Reported

LD132125 Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat 13 Aug (MAP) — The elections to the municipal and provincial assemblies, which took place in Morocco over the weekend, have been (?marked by) the victory of the Constitutional Union (centrist) which won 205 seats or a percentage score of 28.12. The recently established Constitutional Union is followed by the National Rally of Independents (centrist) with 124 seats (17.01 percent), the Istiqlal Party (conservative) with 109 seats (14.95 percent), the Neutrals with 98 seats (19.44 percent), the Popular Movement (rural) with 92 seats (12.62 percent), the National Democratic Party with 57 seats (7.81 percent), and the Socialist Union of Popular Forces with 41 seats (5.62 percent). The legislative elections will take place next month.

SUDAN

SSU Official Raps Western Media Campaign

JN121139 Khartoum SUNA in English 1025 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Aug (SUNA) — Secretary of the Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) Organizations Committee Muhammad 'Uthman Abu Saq has said that professional work is worldwide carried out at the level of associations and councils whose aim is to promote the profession from its different angles. In a press conference he held yesterday Abu Saq said the banning of professional trade unions was because those unions had been converted into ones for demands, had concentrated their efforts to fight the regime and involved themselves in political work. The general assemblies and bases of those unions were very much concerned with political pressures and had abandoned work for the profession, he said.

The ban was intended to reform this deficiency, he added. Even the professional associations which were set-up under auspices of those trade unions had been influenced by the political colour of the said unions and had not busied themselves with the promotion of the respective professions. Abu Saq further charged that the said unions had no positive ties with each other and some of them were in disagreement with the former employees and professionals union. Our objective is to increase production under the Islamic method and the duty of each establishment is to boost its production capabilities in order to meet the requirements of the state and those of employees, he said.

In reply to a question, Abu Saq said the fierce information campaign launched against Sudan in U.S. and Western Europe had failed to achieve its objectives. He criticized the writings of Mr Johnson, his wife and the group they set up in the U.S. to write about Sudan as unacademic and unscientific. He said Mr Johnson had worked in Sudan for some time as adviser to the Equatoria regions government and was fired because of dishonesty. He said Mr Johnson and his group of writers had attributed the problems in southern Sudan to the introduction of the shari'a laws and the division of the South into three regions.

Mr Johnson allegations are baseless because the introduction of the shari'a had followed the South incidents and because the division of the South was based on the result of elections conducted there, he said. The winning ticket in those elections was that of the division proponents and the people in the South are completely satisfied with the division, he further said. The division was supported by the masses of the South because it was effected on democratic bases and had consolidated democracy, development and services, he said.

He indicated what he described as the international understanding of the division of the South and said the division had nothing to do with the problems there and had even helped eliminate the domination of big tribes there and that the southern regions masses were trying to escalate development through their participation in region government. The majority of the southern regions masses are opposed to the outlaws and reject the subversion carried out by certain indiviuals who are well known to the people as tools of foreign powers, he said. The southern regions masses know the Marxist indentity of outlaws, he added.

There is now complete conviction in Western Europe and Britain that what the outlaws say about Sudan is false particularly their allegations about instability, the differences with Ethiopia and the North-South problems, he said. There are now thinkers and writers in those countries who maintain that the Sudan could not be divided into a southern Christian and northern Muslim country and who confirm that the Sudan's problems are not because of religious, ethnic or cultural conflicts despite the allegations of the gang of Denka Bor which have settled in those countries, he said.

Co-existence among the religions has even become stronger after the introduction of Islamic legislations because Islam respects other religions and recognizes the rights of non-Muslims without any discrimination, a thing that makes the Constitution, the Islamic laws and the Islamic religion a shield that projects other religions. Abu Saq said procedures were underway for the revision of the work of popular and social organizations in the southern regions. He said the political organizations in was planning to organize the youths efforts in the fields of development, environment and agriculture. [sentence as received]

He said preparations were made to set up an operation room at the SSU headquarters within the framework of the efforts aimed at safeguarding the internal front. He added that four other rooms would be established in the different districts of the national capital to provide required information pertaining to the protection of the internal front and to mobilize masses to play their role in this connection.

SSU To Establish Operation Rooms in Khartoum
JN111846 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Aug (SUNA) — Dr Muhammad 'Uthman Abu Saq, secretary of the Organizations Committee, has announced that the SSU has made preparations to establish a principal operation room under the SSU as well as four other operation rooms throughout the national capital to provide information for protecting the domestic front, to keep the political organization's cadres and leaders on constant alert and to urge the masses to protect the domestic front.

Abu Saq also said that the leaders of the political organizations will hold intensive meetings to urge the masses to play their role in protecting the domestic front. They will also hold popular meetings and a large popular rally on 12 October to mark the republic's celebrations for and the people's absolute support of President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri.

Numayri Confers With Upper Nile Governor
JN131600 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received here today Upper Nile Region Governor Danial Kut. Kut stated that during the meeting they reviewed the progress of work, the security situation, and reinforcing the domestic front. He said the president of the republic praised the performance of the region's organs and asserted his support for them in various spheres. Kut noted that the president will visit the region after his official visit to Romania at the end of the month. He said the president will also visit the new Al-Wahdah Province in the region.

Briefs

New Ambassador to Tanzania — Khartoum, 13 Aug (SUNA) — The Tanzanian Government has agreed to the nomination of Hamad an-Nil Ahmad Muhammad as Sudan's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Tanzania. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Aug 84 JN]

Outgoing Vatican Ambassador — Khartoum, 13 Aug (SUNA) — First Vice President Retired Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib today received (Giovanni Mauriti), Vatican's papal nuncio in Khartoum, at the expiry of his term in the country. They discussed the relations between Sudan and the Vatican and means to bolstering and developing them. The first vice president expressed his thanks to the papal nuncio for the efforts he exerted during his period of service in the country. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 13 Aug 84 JN]

TUNISIA

Italy's Craxi Visits President Bourguiba
LD131531 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Sqans, 13 Aug (TAP) — Habib Bourguiba received Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi in the Presidential Palace in Sqans this morning. Also present were Mohamed Mzali, the prime minister and minister of the interior; Beij Caid Essebsi, the minister of foreign affairs; and Mohamed Sayah, the Tunisian ambassador to Rome. Bettino Craxi, before leaving the Presidential Palace, stated that he met with President Habib Bourguiba "the friend of Italy" to express feelings of appreciation and respect. He added that he raised issues of joint interest with the president. Mohamed Mzali received the Italian Prime Minister Mr Bettino Craxi this morning in Monastir. The meeting was also attended by Beji Caid Essebsi and Mohamed Sayah.

KUNA: Al-Qadhdhafi Expected in Tunis

LD141127 Kuwait KUNA in English 1030 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, Aug 14 (KUNA) — Libyan leader Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi is expected here later Tuesday, a well-informed source told KUNA here. The Libyan leader is scheduled to arrive at the Carthage International Airport from Algiers, the source added. The source elaborated that Col Al-Qadhdhafi will meet with the Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba to brief him on the outcome of talks conducted with the Moroccan monarch King Hassan II yesterday in the Moroccan city of Oujda.

Al-Qadhdhafi Arrives

LD141250 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Tunisia this morning continuing his tour of the countries of the Arab Maghreb. Mr Mohamed Mazli, the prime minister; the minister of the interior and a number of Cabinet members were at his reception in Tunis-Carthage International Airport.

WESTERN SAHARA

Algiers: 32 Moroccans Killed in Attacks

LD132240 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Western Sahara — Thirty-two soldiers of the Moroccan occupation force were killed and 58 others injured during the operations of the Sahraoui fighters throughout last week. The Sahraoui Information Ministry says these armed attacks were on positions of the occupying force at Amgala, at (Tureghat) and near El Aargub. Military material and several trenches were destroyed.

DJIBOUTI

Foreign Minister on French Military Presence

LD101529 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Studio interview with Moumin Bahdon Farah, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation of the Republic of Djibouti by unidentified reporter — live]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Minister, is it the Red Sea situation that you, along with President Hasan Gouled, have come to discuss in Paris with Francois Mitterrand? We have also seen the Egyptian foreign minister, 'Abd al-Majid. One point of clarification. France has announced it will increase its military presence in Djibouti. You have said that your government has not asked for a reinforcement of French forces. Is there not a certain contradiction here?

[Moumin] I do not think that there is a contradiction as we must distinguish between the French force in Djibouti itself and the reinforcement of the French force in the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea. These French ships which we have learned are going to the Red Sea will, in a way, reinforce the French fleet in this region, but not, more precisely, the French force in Djibouti. This is why I see no contradiction between the French statement and what we have just said. Of course, until now, ships going to or coming from Djibouti have not been damaged by mines, and because of this the situation concerning Djibouti's territorial and economic zones is not threatened. This is why the Djibouti Government has not yet called on the French Government, but we will if the situation seems to merit it.

[Reporter] Do you think that the situation is not yet sufficiently serious? What is the degree of your concern?

[Mounin]Our concern is general for the overall situation, concern which we share with all the countries bordering the Red Sea. As you know, the Red Sea is very narrow, and if the Red Sea is (?blocked), the economy and the security of all these countries would of course be in danger. So we share the concern of all the countries bordering this region. Nevertheless, with particular regard to Djibouti, we have protection from these devices. We hope that this situation lasts.

[Reporter] Just one point.

[Moumin interrupts] If you will allow me, I should like to correct something in your question. At the beginning you said that President Gouled had come for talks with President Mitterrand precisely on this situation. This is not so. This visit was planned about a year ago; it is a coincidence that their meeting took place at this time.

[Reporter] Good. Just one point on the French presence in Djibouti. Could you be more precise, and is this presence sometimes a burden on you?

[Moumin] The French presence in Djibouti is one that is desired by both sides, and it is and remains the desire of the Djibouti Government. The number of soldiers at the moment is exactly 3,500, most of whom are conscripts. This presence is in no way a burden on Djibouti.

[Reporter] President Mobutu recently proposed the creation of a league of black African states, which would be parallel to the Arab League of States. This, among other reasons, would remove the responsibility of the Western Sahara from the OAU. Yours is a country which is a bridge between black Africa and white Africa. What do you think of the Zairian president's proposal?

[Moumin] I think the proposal made by the Zairian head of state is not really appropriate. Africa is a continent; whether people are black or white, we share this continent. It would not be a welcome to hear that it should be divided on the lines of color, when problems are already sufficiently numerous. And, of course, if we do not manage to find solutions to our problems — more particularly the economic problem, the most critical for Africa — I do not think that it would be by dividing the continent into two parts on color lines that we would find solutions to our problems.

[Reporter] Let's view the situation in the Horn of Africa. Djibouti is in a strategic position between Ethiopia and Somalia. Mediation between those two countries has already been mentioned. Are you still in favor of such an attitude of neutrality and the desire to help in a conciliation process?

[Moumin] Yes, my country does, and will continue, to stick to its position of neutrality in this conflict, and will make its small contribution to to the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict between the states of this region. With regard to a search for a solution, I think we are still far from finding a peaceful solution. However, my country's position remains unchanged with regard to this problem.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Meets With Equatorial Guinean Counterpart

EA121502 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
0500 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, PMAC [Provisional Military Administrative Council] and COPWE chairman, commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, and current OAU chairman, and Colonel Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, president of Equatorial Guinea, met and exchanged views at the National Palace yesterday afternoon.

The two leaders discussed the situation in Africa with particular reference to southern Africa, Chad, and the SDAR. On the occasion, our comrade revolutionary leader briefed the president on the general situation in the continent.

Col Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, for his part, briefed the comrade chairman on Equatorial Guinea's efforts to train personnel to effect its future development in various fields and requested aid and cooperation from Socialist Ethiopia in this respect.

Replying, Comrade Chairman Mengistu assured him that in spite of the fact that over the past years Socialist Ethiopia had been engaged in a struggle to achieve political, social, and economic development, Ethiopia would cooperate with all its strength with sisterly African countries such as Equatorial Guinea.

SOMALIA

Mogadishu Reports 9 Aug Ethiopian Air Attack

EA101534 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Two Abyssinian MiG-23's yesterday attacked Borama district, at 0830. The report was released today by the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Ministry of Defense. The report adds that the courageous air defense force of the SDR confronted the enemy planes and denied them the opportunity to carry out their sick motives.

Halgan Reports Somali National Movement Congress

EA132048 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The fourth ordinary congress of the Central Committee of the Somali National Movement ended in victory at the end of its meetings on 9 August.

The fourth ordinary congress of the Somali National Movement, which opened 3 August and continues until 9 August, elected (Ibrahim Maygag Samatur) on 4 August as its chairman and (Ali Muhammad Hirabe) as its vice-chairman.

The fourth congress debated and reviewed a program presented to it. The agenda of the conference included a program which would be the guideline of the Somali National Movement. The agenda of the conference also included a review of the front's fighting strategy and foreign and local policies, which are based on the political program of the front. The agenda was approved.

The fourth congress of the Somali National Movement made changes in the management and the top leadership. It elected 41 members to the Central Committee instead of the original 47.

The congress also elected the movement's chairman and vice-chairman, respectively (Mujahid [Fighter] Ahmad Muhammad Mahmud Tiranyo) and (Mujahid Ali Muhammad Osobleh Wardigley).

The congress resolved to abolish the post of the secretary general of the Somali National Movement.

The congress appointed six members of its Central Committee to be the movement's representatives in the United States, Britain, Italy, East Africa, and the Arab countries. They are: (Ibrahim Maygag Samatur), to be based in the United States; (Michelino Muhammad) to be based in Italy; and ('Abd ar-Rahman Ahmad Ali), known as ('Abd ar-Rahman Tur) to be based in Britain [only three names given]. The congress, the outcome of which will greatly benefit the Somali opposition movements and Somalis in general, resolved that the two fronts, the Somali National Movement and the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, and all the other anti-Siad groups which are engaged in a political confrontation and armed struggle against the one-man regime of Siad Barre, should immediately and unconditionally unite.

The fourth congress of the Somali National Movement Central Committee has agreed that in future the annual congress of the Somali National Movement be held every 2 years.

Further details on the outcome of the just-ended congress of the Somali National Movement will be broadcast to our listeners in our bulletins over the next few evenings.

UGANDA

All Army Units Pledge Loyalty To Obote

EA132047 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] All units of UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] have sent messages to President Milton Obote pledging to serve with loyalty under the new chief of staff and all the officers who were promoted together with him to serve Uganda within the provisions of the Constitution and the laws enacted by parliament. This was disclosed today by the chief of the Defense Forces, General Tito Okello Lutwa.

Speaking with a UGANDA NEWS AGENCY correspondent, the chief of Defense Forces also urged all the officers and men of UNLA to carry out their duties with dedication and tolerance, as these were the basic requirements of good security officers and men. He said that all who aspire for advancement in the national Army have to show by their work and discipline that they deserve promotions. He added that they are a normal exercise in the development and rebuilding of the national Army. Promotions place officers in positions of higher duties for the continuing efforts in the struggle to build the nation.

In his appreciation message to the government, the chief of staff, Brigadier Smith Opon-Acak said he would serve the democratically elected government with loyalty. He called on all officers to assist him in carrying out the heavy task of his new office. The new chief of staff, Brig Smith Opon-Acak, called upon officers and men of the national Army to give the highest respect to their uniform. He pledged to do all that is humanly possible to raise all round the standards of officers and men of the national Army.

CAMEROON

Chad's Habre To Visit Yaounde 14 August

AB131851 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Chadian President Hissein Habre arrives in Yaounde tomorrow at the start of a 2-day official visit to Cameroon at the invitation of President Paul Biya. On the occasion of President Habre's arrival, the government delegate of Yaounde municipality has appealed to the population of the city to turn out massively to welcome the Chadian leader. He appealed to employers of both the public and private sectors in Yaounde to give brief permissions to their workers to turn out and give President Habre a warm welcomed.

China-Bound Obiang Stops Over 10 August

AB102050 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] Equatorial Guinea's head of state, Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, made a technical stopover at the Douala International Airport this afternoon en route to China. The Equatorial Guinean president was welcomed by Cameroon's foreign minister, William Eteki Mboumoua [name as heard].

Awards Given for 16 April Coup Suppression

AB120745 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] Some 156 civilians and military men were yesterday awarded medals for their exceptional contribution to the suppression of the Arpil 6th abortive coup. The ceremony was presided over by the minister of state in charge of the Armed Forces, Gilbert Andze Tsoungui. Among the recipients was the director of the national radio station, Alexandre Koko Amesse, for the commendable role played by the national radio station on that black Friday.

CHAD

Authorities 'Cautious' Over New GUNT Movement

AB131520 Paris AFP in English 1349 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 13 (AFP) — Authorities here were cautious today over the emergence of a new movement within the opposition Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) holding northern Chad. And observers said that if the formation announced in Ouagadougou yesterday of the Rally of Patriotic Forces (RFP) meant a fragmentation of the opposition to President Hissein Habre, it could only further complicate the chances of a negotiated settlement.

The RFP, consisting of four factions within the GUNT and one outside, rejected the leadership of long-standing GUNT leader and former Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei, but indicated that it was still hostile to Mr Habre's government. That government's information minister, Soumaila Mahamat, also noted that the RFP had made no overtures to Ndjamena, but he added, "if they are really patriots there is no reason why there should not be a rapprochement."

If the real motive of the differences in the GUNT was to reject the movement's Libyan backing, "it deserves to be pursued," Mr Mahamat said. However one official said that the government must "wait and see," instead of speculating about the RFP. A new "manoeuvre" by Libya could not be ruled out, it was stressed.

Official sources pointed out that the meeting to set up the RFP was held in Ouagadougou, capital of Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta), whose government is generally considered close to Libya. "It is difficult to believe that they would welcome Chadians wanting to shake off the Libyan yoke," they noted.

One official also said it was not thought that the members of the RFP — mainly small groups within the GUNT — had a real popular base or any military power. Observers said that while this development might be good in the short term for the Habre government, it failed to do anything to resolve the basic Chadian situation of a divided country.

Newly Formed RFP Issues 'Clarifications' on Goals

AB132145 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 13 Aug 84

["Clarifications" issued by the Rally of the Patriotic Chadian Forces, RFP, on 13 August in Ouagadougou]

[Text] The various reports carried by the world press have caused some confusion which we have deemed necessary to clarify. Our final communique stipulates that the Rally of the Patriotic Forces will pursue a nonaligned policy and have relations with all peace- and justice-loving countries as well as with all organizations that are struggling against racism, apartheid, and Zionism for their national independence. It is therefore obvious that the RFP is undoubtedly willing to work with all peace- and justice-loving countries and is determined to hasten the achievement of a peace settlement in Chad.

The RFP is not the creation of any African or non-African power, but it is the expression of the desire of Chadian patriots, former members of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], and of the opposition, who are determined to pose the actual problems of our national independence in regard to external interference on the one hand, and — for the GUNT ex-members — to denounce Goukouni's occult practices within the coalition whose capacity to lead our national struggle has worn out, on the other hand.

For the RFP, Goukouni no longer symbolizes the liberation struggle of the Chadian people. The RFP therefore wishes that all those who have up till now supported the GUNT with the sincere desire to restore to the Chadian people their freedom and dignity should take note of the clarifications which the Ouagadougou conference made possible. In this connection, the resolution of the contradictions within the GUNT must not be regarded as a hostile move against any state whatsoever.

Concerning Libya in particular, and in fulfillment of our duty to make it possible for the true friends of the Chadian people to appraise the situation equitably and make a positive and effecient contribution, the RFP calls on the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to discontinue any assistance to Goukouni — except for humanitarian aid. The RFP reaffirms that on the basis of its sovereignty, independence, and political orientation, it is ready to cooperate in order to achieve the liberation of the Chadian people. It is evident and clear that with respect to the sovereignty, integrity, and independence of Chad, the RFP cannot compromise. We once again reaffirm our independence of action toward any country or organization in our struggle and we proclaim loudly that we are ready to cooperate with all without any exception.

Balaam Meets Sankara, Comments on RFP

AB131500 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Dr Facho Balaam, secretary general of the National Democratic Union of Chad, who has just been appointed interim coordinator of the Rally of the Patriotic Chadian Forces [RFP] at the end of a meeting of a group of factions of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] that took place in Burkina, was received in audience this morning by Comrade Chairman Thomas Sankara, [Burkina] head of state. After the audience, Dr Balaam spoke to reporters about the purpose the visit and answered some questions from Celestin Zongo of the television, Francois-Xavier Sanou of the National Broadcasting Corporation, and Jean-Baptiste Ilboudo of the BURKINABE NEWS AGENCY. First of all, Dr Balaam talks about his audience with the comrade head of state.

[Begin recording] [Balaam] I would say that the head of state received me because I asked to see him concerning some practical problems and to thank him for the kindness he showed us by allowing us to come here to Burkina Faso to discuss our problems. It was therefore to thank him that I saw him this morning.

[Reporter] Would it be indiscreet if I asked you what you mean by some practical problems?

[Balaam] The practical problems are that some of our comrades have to return to where they came from before the conference. We want to schedule their departure and it is the scheduling of their departure that I went to brief him about.

[Reporter] Dr Facho Balaam, you are the secretary general of the National Democratic Union of Chad, and you have just been entrusted with the post of interim coordinator of the RFP. We know that there are a lot of factions in Chad. How do you envisage the credibility of the RFP that you have just created?

[Balaam] You have rightly used the word "interim." Since yesterday we have received a lot of telephone calls from many of our countrymen telling us that they admire our courage in creating the Rally and that as far as they are concerned, they are going to study the document creating the Rally carefully. But they say that they do not exclude their membership in the Rally. That is why we think that we should set up a provisional organ for a few days to enable people to study the document and then set up something final. We believe that the Rally will constitute a new force in the fight for legitimacy, because if some of the groups still with Goukouni — in fact, there are only three with Goukouni — if the First Army joins us, if we are able to win over Kamougue, we will win over the Revolutionary Democratic Council [CDR], and it is obvious that Goukouni would be left alone. If that happens, then we will have legitimacy on our side. That is why our first objective was to rally as many Chadians as we could who are opposed to the Ndjamena regime. This time it will not only be the supporteres of the GUNT, but even the others will come to our side.

[Reporter] You are talking about plans to win over Goukouni and to bring some factions to your side. Do you not give the impression that you are working toward the isolation of Goukouni Oueddei within the GUNT?

[Balaam] That is obvious. This is because we say that Goukouni is no longer capable of leading our struggle, and we must out of necessity find another process to fight the puppet regime of Hissein Habre.

[Reporter] For many weeks now, a meeting of reconciliation of all Chadians to be held in Brazzaville, Congo, has being envisaged. At the press conference you held here in Burkina yesterday, you also called on the OAU for such a meeting. What do you think about this proposed Brazzaville conference for the reconciliation of the Chadians and what do you expect from the OAU following your appeal to it in your press conference yesterday?

[Balaam] We are asking the OAU to have more courage and to undertake a preliminary work of mobilization; this was not done as far as the first attempt to convene the Brazzaville conference was concerned. There was not enough preparatory work and we think that the OAU must help in carefully preparing the national reconciliation conference. This is why we appeal to the OAU to resume the initiative by giving effective assistance to Congo which has volunteered to attempt to find a solution to the Chadian crisis. We therefore appeal to the OAU to make a little more effort and to make more contributions to the solution of the crisis.

[Reporter] Since you have mentioned the OAU, let me take this opportunity to pose another problem: When the idea of holding a reconciliation conference in Brazzaville was brought up, Hissein Habre said that he would like to go to the conference in his position as the legitimate head of state of Chad, whereas Goukouni Oueddei asked him to go to the conference as the representative and leader of an armed faction in Chad. You are now forming another political front not long before the OAU summit in Addis Ababa. What is going to happen as far as the representation of the factions is concerned?

[Balaam] in our final declaration, we clearly stressed that in order to stop the sufferings of the Chadian people [words indistinct], it is necessary that the OAU should refuse to accept any government claiming to represent Chad. Therefore, the seat must be left empty. This empty seat will enable all parties concerned to rapidly look for a peace solution. If any of the governments — which in fact do not really represent anything — is accepted by the OAU as representing Chad, it will be strengthened by this support, will continue to claim to be legitimate, and will not make any effort to help find a peaceful solution. By continuing to consider Hissein Habre as Chad's representative at the OAU, the problem will definitely not be solved but complicated. This is why we are asking that Chad's seat at the OAU should be left unoccupied and that serious solutions should be envisaged to resolve the Chadian crisis.

[Reporter] Doctor, according to a report we received this morning, we have learned that Chadian President Hissein Habre has launched quite a strong attack on Burkina Faso. What do you think about this?

[Balaam] As I have already said elsewhere, has Burkina Faso any lesson to receive from Hissein Habre who in fact does not represent legitimacy in Chad, who is nothing but an instrument in the hands of imperialist agents, and who is not independent and free to think? I believe that Burkina Faso is an African country which is concerned about Africa's unity, freedom, and independence and I think that it is its desire to contribute to the search for a peaceful solution in Chad that made it to agree that some patriots — men who have been thinking on behalf of the Chadian people — should meet here to discuss their problems. This act by Burkina Faso is a revolutionary one which effectively disturbs that puppet regime. The RFP represents the true aspiration of the Chadian people. Therefore, they are worried that this patriotic force is being given the opportunity to express itself. As you know, the enemy is always afraid that the force we represent, as far as the aspiration of our masses is concerned, will complicate his situation. He is afraid and because of this fear, he is obliged to look everywhere for scapegoats. As far as we are concerned, we have concluded that the attitude of Hissein Habre's puppet regime is due to panic. This is because he knows that with the advent of the RFP, things will not remain as they are now. [end recording]

CONGO

AFP Gives Biography of New Prime Minister
AB091821 Paris AFP in French 1629 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 9 Aug (AFP) — A decree by the Ministerial Council meeting issued on Wednesday has made official the appointment of Ange Edouard Poungui, who was named prime minister last Tuesday at the end of the extraordinary meeting of the Congolese Labor Party.

Mr Poungui, who succeeds Colonel Louis-Sylvain Goma, now chairman of the Constitutional Council, stated that his post is second only to the head of state, Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who is also the head of the government.

Mr Poungui, (42 years old) is a graduate in economics. Between 1963 and 1968 he was the leader of the Association of Congolese Scholars and the General Union of Students and Pupils of Congo. In 1968, he became a member of the National Council of the Revolution and then the Political Bureau in charge of finance and equipment under the regime of Commander Marien Ngouabi.

He was minister of finance from 1971 to 1973 and was later appointed vice chairman of the Council of State and minister of planning. He was the deputy director general of the Bank of Central African States [BEAC] from 1976 to 1979. Before this appointment he was Congo's governor to the IMF and the African Development Bank from 1971 to 1973. He is currently the president of the Federation of Professional Associations of Banks in the BEAC zone. He once headed the Congolese Commercial Bank and he is the current president of the Association of Bank Professionals in the Congo.

ZAIRE

Mozambican Official Visits Voice of Zaire
AB101250 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0940 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 10 Aug (AZAP) — Louis Bernardo Homuana, [Mozambican] secretary of state for arts and culture, on Thursday afternoon visited the headquarters of the Voice of Zaire under the guidance of Citizen Dongo Badjanga Esek-'Sobala, secretary of state for information.

Citizen Dongo explained to the Mozambican statesman the structures and organization of the Department of Information, Mobilization, Propaganda, and Political Rallying as well as the functioning of the radio and television services and the written press. Zaire is seeing to ensure adequate information by establishing radio stations and transmission centers throughout the national territory, he stressed.

He announced that the Center for the Training of Information Officials will soon become famous in Central Africa thanks to the collaboration of the French ministry of cooperation [as received]. He explained that negotiations between the two parties have already reached a very advanced stage.

The secretary of state for information finally expressed the hope that African trainees in the field of the mass media would come to Zaire for their training instead of going to western countries so that they may maintain contact with African customs and traditions.

For his part, the Mozambican secretary of state said he was impressed by Zaire's experience in the field of information from which many African countries — including Mozambique — could learn. He finally insisted on the training of information officials, which involves considerable investment.

BURKINA

PLO, SRV Envoys Present Credentials

AB101756 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Press communique from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs]

[Excerpt] On 10 August 1984, beginning at 0900, Comrade Nongma Ernest Ouedraogo, minister of interior and security, acting for the minister of foreign affairs currently on mission, successively received their excellencies Man Tran Xuan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Congo, and (Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahim, Abu Rabah), ambassador of the PLO to Mali. The two diplomats came to present to the Burkina Faso minister of foreign affairs copies of their credentials by which Chairman of the State Council Truong Chinh and Yasir 'Arafat accredit them to Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state.

His Excellency ('Abd ar-Rahim, Abu Rabah) expressed satisfaction with his appointment by Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to represent the PLO at the first anniversary of the revolution. He expressed the PLO's and Chairman 'Arafat's esteem and sympathy for our people, our revolution, and its leader, Comrade Thomas Sankara. He thanked the Burkinabe people, the CNR, and its revolutionary government for the just and courageous stand taken in support of the PLO, a stand which falls within the framework of the liberation struggle of people under imperialist yoke. He reaffirmed the PLO's principle of fraternal solidarity with Africans in general and the Burkinabe people in particular.

In answer to a question put to him by Minister Ernest Nongma Ouedraogo on the unity within the PLO, the Palestinian diplomat replied that in spite of pressures from some countries, efforts are being made for unity and already the essential components of the PLO have been brought together. The minister then asked for information about the Camp David agreement and the situation currently prevailing in Israel.

Saudi Development Fund Grants Loan for Dam Project

AB121110 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] A financial cooperation agreement was signed yesterday between Burkina Faso and the Saudi Development Fund. Under the terms of this agreement the Saudi Development Fund places 4.690 billion CFA francs at the disposal of the Burkinabe Government for the partial financing of the Kotienga dam project. The loan is payable in 20 years with a grace period of 5 years and an annual interest rate of 2 percent.

It should be recalled that when this important dam project is finished, it will generate electricity power of 15 megawatts, the irrigation of several million hectares of land, and the installation of a fish-pond industry.

Correction: Sankara Tells Cabinet GUNT To Meet

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Sankara Tells Cabinet GUNT To meet in Country 9 Aug," published in the 10 August Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT* on page T 6. The following paragraph should be inserted between paragraphs one and two:

One item on the agenda concerned the reorganization of the agrarian and land system in Burkina Faso. The ordinance on the agrarian and land reforms puts an end to the former agrarian and land system of the Burkinabe which was governed by traditional and statutory administrative laws. The ordinance makes the soil and subsoil of Burkina the exclusive property of the revolutionary state, which will exploit them in accordance with the interests of the Burkinabe people. The ordinance will as of now permit the Burkinabe revolutionary state to exploit the land of the Burkinabe in order to end its food dependency and to exploit the wealth of its subsoil in accordance with its own interests and its own will.... (supplying additional passage)

GHANA

Rawlings Receives Burkinabe Students, Comments

AB121018 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, has declared that the revolutionary processes in Ghana and Burkina Faso are not only for their peoples, they are also for benefit of the whole of Africa. The peoples of the two countries should therefore commit themselves to the aims of their revolutions to achieve progress in the years ahead.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings was speaking in Accra last night at a send-off party for the 34 Burkinabe students who leave Ghana today after their month-long visit. He said: It is not a question of how much we can leave but how much we put into our existence. The leadership of the two countries today is serving as a bridge and it is not going to be easy. The PNDC chairman noted that the people are oppressed because of the level of the [word indistinct] of their oppressor and their own consciousness. He asked them to see the objectives of the revolution and the obstacles involved.

Ghana's ambassador to Burkina Faso, Dr Keli Nordor, said exchange programs for students will be encouraged between the two countries. The leader of the students, Mr Bamouni Dieudonne, said the students are looking up to the day Ghana and Burkina Faso will be united to destroy their barriers. He assured the leaders of the two countries that they could count on their cooperation and support to achieve this goal.

USSR Signs Radio, Television Agreement 13 Aug

AB131355 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] A cooperation agreement between the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation and the Soviet State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting was signed in Accra today. It was signed by the secretary for information, Miss Joyce Aryee, and the Soviet ambassador to Ghana, Mr Semenov. The agreement, which will initially last 2 years, provides for exchange of experts and radio and television materials. Speaking at the ceremony, Miss Aryee observed that the agreement, which is outside the main cultural accord between Ghana and the Soviet Union, is significant. This is because it demonstrates the cordial relations between the two countries.

Country Receives UK Aid for Mining, Timber Industry

AB132230 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, and the acting British high commissioner to Ghana, Mr Roy Dean today exchanged letters releasing to Ghana 3.3 million pounds sterling worth of aid. The aid is for the mining and timber industries as well as for a water project.

GUINEA

President Receives Message From Senegal's Diouf

AB132251 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpts] On a special working visit to Guinea, Moustapha Niasse, Senegalese minister of state for foreign affairs, was received this afternoon by His Excellency Colonel Lansana Conte, head of state and chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN]. He was accompanied by Mbaye Diouf, Senegal's ambassador to Guinea. As the bearer of a personal message from President Abdou Diouf to President Lansana Conte, Moustapha Niasse held talks with the head of state in the presence of Colonel Diara Traore, member of the CMRN, prime minister, and head of the government; Captain Facine Toure, member of the CMRN and minister of foreign affairs; Captain Mohamed Traore, member of the CMRN and minister of information and tourism; Captain Sekou Traore, member of the CMRN and secretary general of the government; Richard Haba, minister of economic and financial affairs; and (Adame Bangoura), chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

After conveying the warm greetings of President Abdou Diouf to his brother and friend President Lansana Conte, Moustapha Niasse presented a very clear report on the problems of bilateral cooperation between Senegal and Guinea and on the difficulties facing the OAU as well as problems concerning the South-South cooperation. Very satisfied, His Excellency Col Lansana Conte, chairman of the CMRN and head of state, asked Moustapha Niasse to convey his sincere thanks to President Abdou Diouf for his sincerity and his ardent desire to bolster the ties of friendship and brotherliness between Senegal and Guinea.

DPRK Envoy Departs, Extends Visit Invitation

AB111040 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Foreign Affairs Minister Facine Toure today received in audience His Excellency Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, Yemen Arab Republic's ambassador to Guinea, who went to bid him farewell. The Yemeni ambassador seized this opportunity to express his deep gratitude to the Guinean people for their hospitality and for the sincere cooperation of the government's officials, which, he said, considerably contributed to the success of his mission in Guinea.

The minister of foreign affairs also received in audience today His Excellency Kim Chin-ki, DPRK's ambassador to Guinea, who delivered a message from his government inviting His Excellency Colonel Lansana Conte, president of the Republic, and our minister of foreign affairs to visit the DPRK. The visit is being awaited by our people with great interest, the ambassador stated, because it will contribute to the strengthening of the good, friendly, and cooperative relations between our two countries.

PRC Medical Team Departs After 2-Year Tour

AB131350 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The eighth PRC medical team left Conakry last Saturday for Beijing. The 29-member medical team, which was led by Dr (Zhi), served for 2 years in our country and was seen off at Gbessia International Airport by (Hu Fangyi), the charge d'affaires of the PRC Embassy in Guinea, and [words indistinct] Dr (Zhi Xinghen).

These teams of Chinese doctors have been serving in turns in our coutry for about 18 years within the framework of an agreement signed between the PRC and Guinea.

LIBERIA

Guidelines for Registration of Parties Released

AB132215 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The guidelines are being released for the registration of political parties and independent candidates in Liberia. The guidelines were issued today by Ernest Hammond, chairman of the Special Elections Commissions. The guidelines state that political parties must have a current financial statement of not less than $50,000 in cash and $100,000 in security and bonds. The guidelines say each political party as an association should have a membership of not less than 500 voters each in at least six of the 11 counties.

On the question of independent candidate, the guidelines stipulate that the independent candidate shall be a person seeking electoral post or office with or without his own organization but acting independently of political party.

MOJA Members Form New Political Party

AB132200 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The Movement for Justice in Africa, MOJA, has officially announced the formation of a political party. MOJA's Provisional National Committee chairman, Dr Amos Sawyer, announced in Monrovia today that the party is to be called the Liberia People's Party, LPP. At a press conference held at a local hotel in Monrovia today, Dr Sawyer explained that LPP's platform will include the promotion of national unity, equal access to health, education, and balanced economic development. Dr Sawyer called on all political parties to join together to ensure that the electoral process has a chance to work. He said that although LPP had MOJA members, not every MOJA member is a member of the party. Dr Sawyerr cited Ambassador D. Mason and former Planning Minister Togba Nah Tipoteh as prominent MOJA members who have not yet aligned with the party.

National Democratic Party Changes Name

AB132202 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] One of Liberia's political parties has changed its name. The National Democratic Party of counselor Willie Appleton is now to be known as the Convention Democratic Party, CDP. In a statement, counselor Appleton said the nomenclature was intended to permit peace and harmony to exist in Liberia. Counselor Appleton said the motto of the party is: One Nation Indivisible With Liberty and Justice for All. The party's emblem carries the African palm tree.

MALI

Envoy Brings Pereira Message to Traore

AB111310 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of the Malian People (UDPM) and president of the Republic, today received in audience His Excellency Arnaldo Araujo, the Cape Verde ambassador to Senegal, who brought a message from Aristides Pereira, secretary general of the PAIGC and president of the Cape Verde Republic. Their discussions, which centered on bilateral cooperation and African problems, took place in the presence of His Excellency Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; Seydou Niare, acting secretary general at the Presidency; and Ansoumane Ndiaye, economic councellor at the Presidency of the government. At the end of the audience, Arnaldo Araujo spoke to Seidina Oumar Dikko about the discussions he held with the president of the Republic:

[Begin recording] [Araujo] You know President Moussa Traore by his convictions, the force of his convictions, and through his intelligent understanding. He has an outstanding place among the heads of state of our continent as far as unity and the survival of our organization, the OAU, are concerned. It should be noted that President Pereira, aware of the present situation of our organization, wanted to express to President Moussa Traore his deep concern for the situation we are facing because he is aware of the fact that it is through the strengthening of contacts between various heads of state that possible solutions can be found to safeguard the unity within our organization.

We should be sincere and say that the OAU is facing the most serious crisis of its history. It is true that Africa has been confronted with several serious problems before, some more serious than others, but thanks to the wisdom of our heads of state, we have been able to gradually overcome those crises. We hope that this concern for the survival of this important tool for the welfare of the African people — the OAU — will eventually enable our heads of state to find a solution to these problems.

We must be clear: The crisis is serious but we still have hope, especially as far as finding solutions to the serious problems like the Western Sahara and Chad are concerned.

[Dikko] May we know if there has been any change in your country's position on the Chad and Western Sahara issues?

[Araujo] Our position on these issues is still the same. Cape Verde has analyzed these various issues taking into account the major interests of the brotherly peoples of Africa and our stand of a year or two ago remains unchanged. [end recording]

Appeal for International Help To Save Livestock

AB131715 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 13 AUG 84

[Text] Mali appealed for international help to save the livestock of the Gao and Nioro du Sahel regions, 80 percent of which has already been decimated by drought. The call was made this morning on behalf of the party and the government by Beye Ag Mohamed, deputy organizing secretary of the Central Executive Bureau, and Lieutenant Colonel Abderhamane Maiga and Alioune Blondin Beye, respectively ministers of the interior and foreign affairs and international cooperation.

Foreign Minister Leaves for PRC, DPRK

AB132231 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Alioune Beye, the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, leaves Bamako this evening for a tour of Asia. During the tour, he is expected to visit the PRC and the DPRK at the invitation of the PRC and DPRK Governments. During these official visits, the foreign affairs and international cooperation minister will deliver messages from President Moussa Traore to the PRC president and to President Kim Il-song of the DPRK.

NIGERIA

Gambari Interviewed on International Issues

AB131825 Lagos NAN in English 1530 GMT 13 Aug 84

[NAN feature: NAN Interview With Dr Ibrahim Gambari, minister of external affairs]

[Text] The NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA [NAN] recently interviewed the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, on a variety of international issues. The minister discussed the effects of the Umaru Dikko attempted kidnap on the relations between Nigeria and Britain, the review of Nigeria's foreign policy, the problems of Chad and Western Sahara. He also spoke about the financial problems of the OAU, the choice of the next OAU secretary-general and Nigeria's role in the Nonaligned Movement.

NAN: The recent confrontation between Nigeria and Britain over the attempt by some people to kidnap fugitive Umaru Dikko in London has raised a lot of question about Nigeria's relations with Britian and the orientation of its foreign policy in general. First, how much damage have the Umaru Dikko affairs done to relations between Nigerian and Britain?

Gambari: The damage could have been great because it seems as if Britain was finding us guilty of the act even before the trial of those who were accused of the attempted kidnap. From Britain's action of expelling two of our diplomats, it would seem as if the Government of Nigeria was involved. But we had testified loudly and clearly that there was no involvement of the Government of Nigeria at all in this matter. Once you start something like that, there is action and reaction and things have a way of gaining their own momentum and getting completely out of hand. We are happy, however, that wiser counsel seems to have prevailed. The situation seems to have stabilised and everything now depends on how the trials go — whether or not they try to implicate the Nigerian Government takes to which we will respond appropriately. [sentence as received]

NAN: If it came to the crunch, would Nigeria break diplomatic relations with Britain?

Gambari: Breaking diplomatic relations is the last card you play in a diplomatic game. Of course, faced with this kind of situation, any government would review its options and breaking diplomatic relations is obviously one of the options available. But we will not take any rash decisions and, therefore, we will not play our last card first.

NAN: There is a general feeling that the time has come for Nigeria to overhaul its relations with Britain. What is your reaction to this?

Gambari: Yes, it's very likely that we will do so. Even without a crisis, every country should constantly assess and reassess its policies towards other countries. Foreign policy is always in a state of change, because the world itself is changing.

NAN: Has the new military government carried out a general review of Nigeria's foreign policy?

Gambari: When it came to power, this administration said Africa would continue to be the centrepiece of our foreign policy. But, very quietly, this administration has been establishing some priorities within this priority of Africa being the centrepiece. One of the priorities is to pay greater attention to the relationship with our neighbours because we feel that the security of our country has to be our number one priority. One of the greatest threats to the security of any country is the existence of neigbours with which it does not have cordial relations. This is because they could be used by others against it. But, on the positive side, with 'ECOWAS' and in terms of bilateral trade and economic relations, there is a lot to be gained by paying more attention to how we do business with our neigbours. We are, therefore, strengthening every link with our neigbours. We are putting more emphasis on our relationship with them. So, our entire foreign policy is being constantly reassessed and, even, the very concept of Africa being the centrepiece of that policy is being reviewed.

NAN: How do you reconcile the closing of Nigeria's borders with the desire for stronger relations with its neighbours?

Gambari: Charity begins at home. When we have secure borders we can then spread our activities to other parts of Africa and other areas of the world. We believe, and we told our neighbouring countries, that it is not in their interest to have a weak Nigeria, economically. It is not in their interest to have a Nigeria whose currency is a subject of trafficking all over. It is not in their interest [words indistinct] with Nigeria trade relations. A prosperous Nigeria can only be of benefit to them, especially in the context of 'ECOWAS.' That is really the issue. The closure of the border is related to our determination to look inwards and reorder our priorities internally, to check indiscipline, to consolidate the value of our currency, to check smuggling and then put our trade relationship on a very neighbours. [sentence as received] And I believe they understand it.

NAN: What are the main principles guiding Nigeria's foreign policy?

Gambari: The first is the welfare and security of our people. In pursuance of this, we will try to promote friendly relations with our neighbours and with all countries in Africa and the world which share the same values with us. Another principle is the promotion of the liberation of all African territories from the shackles of imperialism and oppression. The third is opposition to apartheid in all its forms and ramifications, and the fourth is support for international organisations such as the United Nations. But, above all, there is the promotion of a just international economic order in which the propserity of our people will be further enhanced.

NAN: At the end of your recent visit to southern Africa, you painted a dismal picture of the situation there. What needs to be done to improve the situation?

Gambari: First of all, member-states of the OAU should pay up their dues in support of the liberation struggle. Secondly, all members of the organisation and the international community must come to the aid of Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Zimbabwe and all those who are fighting to consolidate their national security and territorial integrity and promote the welfare of their people. Some of these countries which went through many years of struggle to achieve independence are now being subverted from within with the assistance of South Africa. Thirdly, the liberation movements which are in a less strong position than before, the ANC and SWAPO, must now reassess their strategies. Instead of giving up their targets in South Africa and withdrawing into safety behind the border, they will now have to fight in South Africa itself and remain there. So, the nature of the struggle has to change. Also, the new strategies call for new types of assistance in terms of weaponry and, even, in propaganda. There is need to re-educate the people inside South Africa and Namibia so that the struggle will be strengthened. So, it is up to us as African nations to turn the situation around by increasing the level of assistance to the independent countries of southern Africa [words indistinct]

NAN: But, what is Nigeria doing?

Gambari: I must say that in Nigeria, we are doing our best. For example, we have increased our contributions to the OAU Liberation Committee. We have paid the full contribution to the OAU regular budget for 1984/85. We are not in arrears, but when we received a letter from the OAU that it might not be able to pay the salaries of its staff, we promptly sent a cheque for our contribution. If other countries do as much as we do, I believe that South Africa will be put on the defensive.

NAN: The negative turn of events in southern Africa is the result of the so-called "constructive engagement" and "linkage policies" of the American Government which has given encouragement to the racist regime in South Africa. What can African countries do to make the United States change its policy?

Gambari: A number of countries in Africa have close relationships with the United States. They are also highly regarded by the United States, not for sentimental reasons but in terms of the volume of trade and level of investment. I think it is up to these countries to work together in the United Nations, the OAU and elsewhere to pressurise the United States to do a re-thinking of its policies. We have argued that America's policy is not making South Africa change its apartheid policy: It is not bringing Namibia's independence closer to reality. As a matter of fact, as a result of this policy, the multi-national corporations are still encouraged to increase their investments in South Africa, thereby financing apartheid. In addition, United States policy has encouraged Israel to intensify its collaboration with South Africa that originally started to talk about linkage: It was the United States that linked the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola to the independence of Namibia. It was later that the South African Government began to re-echo it. It was like somebody being handed an excuse.

NAN: Success in the struggle for the independence of Namibia and the liberation of South Africa, to a great extent, will depend on the financial strength of the OAU. But so many member-states are not paying their dues. What is the solution to this problem?

Gambari: Some do not pay because they are not in a very good position to pay. Then there is the catergory of countries that don't pay, not because they don't have the means, but because they disagree with the OAU on certain issue. There are some which just simply don't pay for no apparent reason.

NAN: What can de done to make them pay up?

Gambari: What Nigeria suggested at the last OAU Council of Ministers' meeting is that for those which have not been exempted from payment due to economic reasons of [word indistinct]or particular hardships, there should be some sanctions, and I think the OAU is moving in that direction. If you enjoy the benefits of membership of any organization, you have to also accept the obligations. Africa is going through a very difficult time now in terms of the liberation struggle. This is where we need greater commitment, and there is no greater evidence of commitment than to live up to one's financial commitment. Also, I want to point out that a lot of these countries that don't pay their contributions to the OAU pay religiously to the UN. Now, obviously, the OAU should be much nearer to us and we should be willing to make greater sacrice for its survival.

NAN: What type of sanctions would you suggest?

Gambari: First, suspending the right of voting. Another serious one is the suspension of membership. But I don't beleive that we shall go to that extent. Once it becomes clear to states that, if they don't pay, sanctions may be imposed, I think that some will pay.

NAN: There are two other issues that threaten the existence of the OAU. These are the Western Sahara conflict and the civil war in Chad. They created problems for the 19th summit and there is fear that the same thing might happen to the 20th summit. What is being done to defuse these issues?

Gambari: Actually, a lot has been done. The chairman of the OAU, Colonel Mengistu of Ethiopia, has been working very hard and the secretary-general of the OAU ad interim, Dr Peter Onu, has also been working very hard, consulting with members of the OAU and seeking their views and suggestions on how to break the impasse.

NAN: What is being done about the Western Sahara issue?

Gambari: Senegal and Nigeria have asked the chairman of the OAU Implementation Committee which was set up at the last summit and given the mandate to implement its 19th resolution on Western Sahara. [sentence as received] This resolution contains provisions for direct talks between Polisario and the Kingdom of Morocco, for a ceasefire and a referendum. All the heads of state of Africa at that 19th summit, except that of Morocco, believe this is the way the issue can be solved. Africa has, in fact, bent over backwards with Morocco. There is no other situation in which the rest of Africa is asking a people to have a referendum to determine whether they want to be independent or not. We have always assumed a right of self-determination. But we are saying that if the referendum comes up and the people say, as Morocco believes thay would, that they want to stay with Morocco, Africa will have to accept. So, the OAU wants, and we have been appealing to Morocco through its friends and directly, that it should show enough flexibility on this issue so that the OAU implementation committee would meet and have something to implement and report to the next summit on the problem of Western Sahara.

NAN: What is Nigeria's position on the issue?

Gambari: The position of Nigeria is clear. The most important thing to us is the survival of the OAU. No issue and no country should be allowed to break it. Why should we allow Morocco to pursue a line that will break the organization? Why should we allow one issue to break the organization? Nigeria and the chairman of the OAU are, therefore, going to do everything to defuse the problem.

NAN: If Morocco should continue to be intransigent, what do you think should be the next thing to be done?

Gambari: We in Nigeria have several options available to us. The head of state and the government will soon examine these options. It is becoming clear to Morocco that its position will no longer be tenable. I believe that it will have to change its policy. Our position is that we should not abandon our organization because of any particular issue just as members have not walked out of the UN since 1945, even though many issues are not nearer solution now than they were when the organization started. We should sit together to make enough progress to sustain the OAU.

NAN: What is the solution to the problem of Chad?

Gambari: I am of the opinion that if Nigeria's formula for solving the problem of Chad is followed, enough progress would be made so that the issue will not threaten the existence of the OAU. The four principles which we have always stated are as follows:

First, the solution to the problem of Chad lies in the hands of the Chadians themselves. All of us can help them, but they must accept the fact that Chad is their country.

Secondly, the road to peace lies in national reconciliation. They will have to agree on some formula that embraces a wide segment of opinion or interests in their country.

Thirdly, national reconciliation cannot take place if the non-Chadian troops remain in the country, because each of the major groups will rely on their backing and there will be no incentive to move in the direction of peace. That is why we ask for the withdrawal of all non-Chadian troops.

Finally, the OAU should be involved in whatever peace talks that take place on Chad, because it is at the OAU that you are going to register whatever agreement the Chadians have reached.

We believe that, if these four principles are followed, there will be peace. We have been saying so to all the groups in Chad. We have talked to the French. We have talked to the Libyans. I am still hoping to go to France to argue the same point and to find a way out of the impasse.

NAN: If and when the [word indistinct] OAU summit takes place, one important issue that will have to be decided is who becomes the next secretary-general of the organisation. What is going to be Nigeria's position?

Gambari: We are very committed to the OAU and we believe that commitment doesn't have to be demonstrated by insisting that a Nigerian should be the secretary-general. In fact, if you take the parallel of the United Nations, no big power has ever contested for the post of secretary-general. So, what we are doing is just to be consistent. Nigeria is not going to put up any candidate. But if the same situation that happened at the last summit reoccurs in the next, we shall not stand in the way of Africa if it wants a Nigerian to continue as secretary-general. Nigeria did not put up Dr Onu last year. He is there by the force of circumstances, and should the same situation repeat itself, we shall accept it.

NAN: Nigeria's relations with the socialist countries appear to have suffered some neglect under the last civilian administration. What is the attitude of the present military administration to this situation?

Gambari: We want to reverse it. We are a nonaligned country and we are not going to line up behind any power bloc, East or West, as a matter of routine. What governs our behaviour will always be the national interests of Nigeria. Our national interest will be better served economically, militarily and politically if Nigeria is friend to all and enemy to none except those who act contrary to those interests. So, we are going to move our foreign policy into a position of true nonalignment.

NAN: But Nigeria doesn't seem to be playing an active role in the Nonaligned Movement?

Gambari: Well, maybe in the past, but a new government is here now and we intend to play our part. We have been in touch on the Iran-Iraq war. For example, Nigeria took the initiative of raising the issue in the OAU. We are in consultation with other nonaligned countries to see that the war there stops because this is a war between two nonaligned nations which has the capacity for getting the superpowers even more involved than they are at present.

NAN: A sound foreign policy can only be based on a sound domestic economic and political foundation. What must be done at the domestic level to enable Nigeria play a more dynamic and respectable role at the international level?

Gambari: There are two things. One is to be self-reliant, that is, to be self-sufficient in agricultural production, to really push for a programme of industrialisation so that we can produce what we consume, and we should consume more of what we produce. That is the only out because, as long as we remain an importer nation, to that extent will we be dependent and to that extent will we not be in a position to play a truly dynamic and truly active role in the world.

The second thing we can do is to have a greater degree of national unity and support for this administration, not because I am in it but for the fact that when an administration enjoys the support of the people, it can confidently say and do things. No government can pursue a dynamic foreign policy unless it enjoys a domestic united front and until such a time that the economy is strong and the people are self-reliant.

Country Reacts to UK Article, Vows WAI To Continue

AB141045 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The Nigerian Government says it will not abandon its present war against indiscipline [WAI] and corruption in the country. The Nigerian High Commission in London made this declaration while reacting to a report entitled "Nigeria's Reign of Terror" published in the London *DAILY TELEGRAPH* last week.

In a rejoinder, the High Commission said that the death sentence, which the report claimed was mandatory for a wide range of offenses, was meant to deter undesirable elements in the society from committing crimes that further make life unbearable for the innocent citizens. The rejoinder explained that what has happened since Major General Muhammadu Buhari assumed office as head of state was a sincere attempt by the government to fight corruption and other ills that have plagued the nation even before independence. It disagreed with the impression of brutality and terrorism created by the article and said that even the coup that swept the civilian regime out of power was without bloodshed. It noted that there has been no case of political assassination since the Federal Military Government came to power in December.

The high commission pointed out that every government has the right to maintain law and order in the society and recalled that history was replete with records of death by hanging in Britain and the Western countries in the effort to combat crime.

Gambari Speaks at Anti-Apartheid Seminar Opening

AB132110 Lagos NAN in English 1704 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug 13 (NAN) — The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, today in Lagos called for the formulation of a legal programme for the effective implementation of UN resolutions against apartheid.

Addressing the opening session of an international seminar on the legal status of apartheid, Dr Gambari said that the measure would help put an end to "the inhuman system called apartheid." He said that the resolutions should not be seen as mere words and stressed the need for a "well reasoned legal programme for combating the apartheid regime in South Africa." He said that the Federal Military Government was committed to the total eradication of racism in South Africa, adding that "for us, there can be no compromise, apartheid cannot be reformed or modernised, it must be totally eradicated."

The chairman of the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid, retired Major General Joseph Garba, said that as the Pretoria regime had proved "incorrigible and immune to appeals, there was need to evolve concrete actions against it." Maj Gen Garba said that apartheid was a challenge to world conscience and called for concrete efforts to bring an end to the immoral, illegal and illegitimate system in the interest of the rule of law.

Also speaking at the seminar, the Senegalese minister of higher education, Mr Ibrahim Fall, called on all countries to address themselves to the problem of apartheid which, he said, was the most serious problem of our time. The minister of justice and attorney-general of the Federation, Mr Chike Ofodile (San) [Senior Advocate of Nigeria], was elected the chairman of the seminar. Others at the opening session were the minister of finance, Dr Onaolapo Soleye, and the minister of information, youth, sports and culture, Group Captain Emeka Omeroah. More than 100 jurists from various parts of the world are attending the four-day seminar.

GUARDIAN Calls for End to Mobutu's 'Tyranical Rule'

AB131230 Lagos International Service in English
0930 GMT 13 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *GUARDIAN* examines the recent elections in Zaire. It notes that the record of President Mobutu Sese Seko is not impressive enough for him to rule for another 7 years. The *GUARDIAN* urges the Zairian people not to relent in their efforts to put an end to the tyranical rule of Mobutu.

SENEGAL

Niasse Takes Diouf Messages to Bongo, Conte

AB120758 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT
10 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Moustapha Niasse, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Dakar this morning for Libreville and Conakry where he will deliver personal messages from President Abdou Diouf to his Gabonese and Guinean counterparts, Presidents El-Hadj Omar Bongo and Lansana Conte. Our correspondent Adam Gueye reports from Libreville where Minister Niasse arrived today:

[Begin recording] The arrival of Minister of State Mustapha Niasse here in Libreville today falls within the framework of the diplomatic relations which make Dakar and Libreville dynamic centers of cooperation among African countries. It is in this connection that Minister Niasse will deliver a message from President Adbou Diouf to President Bongo. Although Mr Niasse did not disclose the contents of the message — perhaps for reasons of diplomatic protocol — he commended the excellent relations existing between Dakar and Libreville and pointed out to the Gabonese press that the two countries have similar views on important African and even international issues.

Still on the bilateral level, Mr Niasse further stated that the next meeting of the Senegal-Gabon joint commission will take place in Dakar in November 1984. This, once again, will be another step forward in the development of cooperation between the two countries. [end recording]

French Envoy Penne Arrives for Talks With Diouf

AB131702 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Guy Penne, President Mitterrand's adviser for African affairs, arrived as previously announced in Dakar this morning. He brought a message from President Mitterrand to President Abdou Diouf and was welcomed at the airport by Moustapha (Klag), permanent under secretary to the president of the Republic, along with Ambassador Papa Abdou Cisse, permanent under secretary to the minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, and Tanor (Dieng), technical adviser at the Presidency of the Republic. President Mitterrand's envoy disclosed to our reporter, Mamadou Fall, the aim of his visit to Senegal.

[Begin recording] [Penne] In fact, I have come to deliver a message of friendship from the President of the French Republic to President Abdou Diouf. I think that the relations between France and Senegal are excellent and that despite the situation imposed by a crisis that is very difficult to overcome, it is certain that our cooperation continues to be frank and solid. As for now, the contacts that I am going to have, as you said, are the meetings I am going to hold with the ministers of planning, finance, and foreign affairs. We will try and discuss all the problems that concern France and Senegal. As for the president of the Republic, with whom I am going to hold discussions following a luncheon, we will certainly talk about problems concerning Africa because, as you know, in Africa today there are many hotbeds and it is important that we know President Abdou Diouf's opinion which I will convey to the president of the French Republic.

[Fall] We know that your trip is taking place following the setting up of the Fabius government. The trip will take you to three west African countries. What is the significance of this trip?

[Penne] There is no particular significance. I visited Benin because there was the recent reelection of President Kerekou and the Beninese president wanted to see me. It has been a long time since I have been to Mauritania — more than 2 years now — whereas I had visited Senegal, which is a neighboring country, more often. You know that there are very important problems in that region and it was necessary for France to affirm its principles dear to it. So, there was nothing particular to this trip. [end recording]

Liberia's Doe Stops Over En Route to FRG

AB120800 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] Liberian head of state President Samuel Kanyon Doe yesterday stopped over in Dakar while en route to West Germany for a medical checkup. Following his visit to Bonn, he will pay official visits to Romania and Austria.

Briefs

Pakistan Envoy Departs — Mohammad Waliullah Khaishgi, Pakistani ambassador to Senegal, is leaving Senegal for good. Moustapha Niasse, state minister for foreign affairs, saluted him yesterday at the Novotel during a party in the presence of members of the diplomatic community, several members of the government, and many guests. [Excerpts] [Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 10 Aug 84 AB]

ANGOLA

Security Forges Kill 212 UNITA Members

MB131313 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The Angolan national defense and security forces annihilated 212 UNITA elements in the period from 21 July to 3 August. The operations of the Peoples Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola were launched in the Moxico, Bie-Cuando Cubango, and Huambo provinces, and led to the liberation of 433 individuals and the retrieval of 30 heads of cattle.

ANGOP, citing an authorized source, said that the most important operation of the defense and security forces since the beginning of this month was the action mounted in the municipality of Ganda, in Benguela Province, which resulted in the release of hundreds of people, the retrieval of a quantity of cattle, and the death of 164 UNITA bandits. On their withdrawal in disarray, the puppets abandoned an important consignment of war material and several documents.

UNITA Communique on Luanda Harbor Explosions

MB130813 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 13 Aug 84

["Special Communique" issued by General Jonas Malheiro Savimbi on behalf of the UNITA Central Committee in Jamba on 31 July 84]

[Text] 1. According to the UNITA strategic plan, the armed struggle started in the capital of our country, Luanda, on the night of 29 July 1984.

a. Hence, special commandos set the explosives and bombs in two ships anchored in the Luanda harbor, one a Soviet ship loaded with assorted merchandize and the other a Cuban ship loaded with war materiel, including armored cars.

b. The Soviet ship sunk immediately after the explosion and the Cuban ship was irreparably hit.

2. The Soviets and the Cubans continue to encourage the war in Angola, ignoring and even sabotaging all the peace initiatives in Southern Africa. Today, with the start of the armed struggle in Luanda, our war front has extended from Cuando Cubango to Cabinda, passing through Luanda, and from Luau to Lobito. The struggle triumphs! United we shall win!

Jamba, 31 July 1984, year of the anti-Cuban patriotic front.

[Signed] General Jonas Savimbi, president of UNITA and supreme commander of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola.

UN Human Rights Commission Departs for Lusaka

MB131926 Luanda ANGOP in French 1200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The group of experts of the UN Ad Hoc Human Rights Commission, which arrived in Luanda last Wednesday to collect testimony, information, and facts on violations of human rights in South Africa and Namibia, leaves Luanda for a similar visit to Zambia today.

At the end of its work, which was carried out from 8 to 11 August in Luanda, the UN ad hoc commission has, in the words of its president, Annan Kato, noted that far from respecting human rights, South Africa has continued to violate the UN laws and norms. Kato added, we have taken a number of steps, but we have never seen concrete proof of a positive change in the conditions of the citizens of South Africa and Namibia. On the contrary, we see the creation of the so-called bantustans.

In conclusion, the president of the UN Ad Hoc Human Rights Commission asked, how could one talk of changes when the Pretoria regime talked of [words indistinct]. [Words indistinct] presided over by Roberto de Almeida, a member of the Political Bureau and party Central Committee Secretary for Ideology, said during his speech that he hoped that the testimony collected by the UN ad hoc commission would constitute a powerful factor in the mobilization of all UN member countries into action to subsequently support the liberation of peoples [words indistinct].

As a member of the United Nations, OAU, and frontline states, Angola has always honored its commitments by rendering moral, diplomatic, and material support, and even sacrificing human lives and material goods for the defense of the legitimate rights of other peoples, Roberto de Almeida added.

Referring to certain UN member countries which favor the strategy of the Botha government aimed at [word indistinct] the essence of the problem and misleading the international public opinion, Roberto de Alemida expressed his indignation at the stand adopted by those countries which impose their domination over other peoples on the basis of the color of their skin which, he remarked, constituted a crime against humanity and a violation of human rights.

Shortly after concluding their work, the experts were received in audience by Venancio de Moura, the Angolan deputy minister of external relations. It should be recalled that during their stay in Angola, the experts of the UN Ad Hoc Human Rights Commission heard testimony from 10 people, mainly refugees from South Africa and Namibia. They also viewed films of atrocities carried out by the racist Pretoria regime against the People's Republic of Angola.

Municipalities Annexed to Bengo Province

MB132024 Luanda ANGOP in French 1200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Luanda, 13 August (ANGOP) — In a law signed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and issued in the official gazette *DIARIO DA REPUBLICA*, the People's Assembly Standing Commission has determined to annex the municipalities of Bula Atumba, Dembos, and Pango Aluquem of Cuanza Norte Province to the Province of Bengo, east of Luanda. In the terms of the law, the Council of Ministers must carry out a study of adjustments and rectifications within limits imposed by social, historical, cultural, and economic realities and other local conditions.

The law is part of a resolution of the Third Plenary Session of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee held in October 1976, which recommends the revision of Angola's administrative division, which has handicapped the management and control work from a geographical, political, and military viewpoint.

Lara Chairs Provincial Party Sessions

MB120832 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] Comrade Lucio Lara, secretary for organization of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, has been in Huambo where he is chairing the sessions of the third plenary meeting of the party provincial committee, which was expected to end yesterday. Lucio Lara has been in the city of Huambo after traveling from Menongue where he also presided over the sessions of the third ordinary session of the Cuando Cubango provincial committee of the MPLA-Labor Party.

The third meeting of the Huambo provincial committee of the MPLA-LABOR Party is designed to assess the activities carried out for the strengthening of the party, and the level of fulfillment of the tasks outlined during the previous meeting. Other items of the agenda include the discussion and approval of the reports from the various working commissions of the provincial committee.

BOTSWANA

Masire Comments on ZANU-PF National Congress

MB091542 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, returned home this morning from Harare, where he attended the first [as heard] national congress of ZANU-PF in independent Zimbabwe. Addressing the congress last night, Dr Masire said that the independence of Zimbabwe 4 years ago — and hence the independence of Botswana — had opened new opportunities for bilateral political, economic, and trade cooperation.

He said it was a happy coincidence that the Southern African Development Coordination Conference was established 17 days before Zimbabwe achieved her independence on 18 April 1980. The president said it was now possible to plan projects such as the regional network of transport and communications.

Turning to the liberation struggle in Southern Africa, Dr Masire said that freedom and human dignity, which are often taken for granted in independent countries such as Botswana and Zimbabwe, were still to come to the people of Namibia and South Africa. He said the liberation of Zimbabwe inspired the oppressed people of Namibia and South Africa and had given them the hope that they too would achieve self-determination and social justice.

The president also paid tribute to the Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, who he said had worked tirelessly in the past 4 years to involve all minority parties and interested groups in rebuilding Zimbabwe. He said that this option showed courage and statesmanship, since he could have pursued the same course by himself with his party.

On relations between the two countries, Dr Masire said that Botswana will continue to adopt and pursue the policy of good neighborliness, because it is in her interest to do so. Dr Masire further said that it was the common desire of Botswana and Zimbabwe to concentrate on the improvement of the quality of life of the people of the two countries, and to cooperate at all levels for the mutual benefit of both countries.

The president, who was accompanied by the minister of external affairs, Mr Archibald Mogwe, and the minister of commerce and industry, Mr M. Nwako, was met at the airport this morning by the first lady, Mrs Gladis Masire, the vice president and minister of finance and development planning, Mr Peter Mmusi and Mrs Mmusi, and senior government officials. Other members of the president's delegation to Harare included a member of the Central Committee of the ruling Botswana Democratic Party, Mr Geoffrey Oteng, and the chairman of the youth wing of the BDP, Mr Pelokhale Seloma.

Masire Reiterates Pledge on Attacks on Neighbors

MB131013 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1003 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Gaborone, Aug 13, SAPA — President Quett Masire said yesterday he would not allow Botswana to be used as a launching pad for attacks against neighboring countries.

Speaking to a political rally of 5,000 people in the capital, Mr Masire said the ruling Botswana Democratic Party would continue to call on South Africa "to dismantle apartheid" and for it to have "meaningful and constructive dialogue" with the leaders of the country's black nationalist groups. This would "ensure peace in South Africa and in the region," he said.

Delivering his party's manifesto for the September 8 elections, Mr Masire said the BDP would maintain a policy of "peaceful coexistence" with its neighbors.

He said he would continue with his long-standing policy of "the non-use of the (Botswana) territory as a launching pad for attacks against neighboring countries, and to continue to cooperate with them on matters of mutual security." Referring to the independence of SWA/Namibia, Mr Masire said Botswana was committed to the implementation of UN Resolution 435 "without modification." "The (ruling) party will continue to reject the linkage of the independence of that territory with the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola," the president added.

Tanzania Foreign Minister Arrives With Invitation

MB131201 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0953 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Gaborone, Aug 13, SAPA — A Tanzania delegation led by Foreign Minister Mr Ben Mkapa arrived in Gaborone last night with a special invitation to President Quett Masire to attend next month's international meeting of socialist parties, to be held in Arusha, Tanzania.

The theme of the Socialist International Conference, which will take place from September 4 to 6, will be the situation in Southern Africa, with particular reference to apartheid in South Africa.

Mr Mkapa said today that although the meeting was intended for the leaders of the world's socialist-oriented parties, Tanzania's President Julius Nyerere had decided that the topics under discussion merited extending special invitations to the leaders of the frontline states.

Already, Mr Mkapa said, he had visited Maputo and Lusaka and after Gaborone he would be calling on the leaders of Zimbabwe and Angola.

He said representatives from Britain's Labour Party and other European socialist parties were expected at the Arusha meeting.

MALAWI

Joint Commission With Zambia Holds Meeting

MB110935 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] The second meeting of the Zambia-Malawi Permanent Commission of Cooperation officially ended today at Kwacha Conference Center in Blantyre. The 4-day meeting ended with the signing of a joint declaration which identifies areas of cooperation between the two countries for future action.

Speaking after the signing ceremony, the minister of finance, Mr Edward Bwanali, who headed the Malawi delegation at the talks, said the resolve by delegates in formulating a tangible working program translates the spirit of friendship between the two countries into concrete benefits for their peoples. Mr Bwanali said Malawi remains committed to the implementation of the objectives of the commission in the spirit of her long-standing policy of contact and dialogue with neighbors.

Speaking in reply, the Zambian minister for national planning and development, Dr Meebelo, called on the two countries to work closely together to clear any hurdles that may stand in their way in providing better living standards for the two peoples. The Zambian delegation today called on his excellency the life president at Sanjika palace in Blantyre.

MAURITIUS

Trade Official Calls for Improved RSA Relations

MB101233 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] The trade representative of the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry in South Africa, Mr (Jean-Michelle de Tenneville), says that the present political and economic climate favors an improvement in relations. De Tenneville, who is based in Johannesburg, says he supports a possible cooperation agreement between South Africa and Mauritius.

He says Mauritius intends negotiating with South Africa for associate membership of the Southern African Customs Union. An attempt is also to be made to reduce the trade gap between the two countries, which is currently in favor of South Africa.

MOZAMBIQUE

12 'Armed Bandits' Killed in Zambezia Province

MB131156 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Another armed bandit camp was destroyed in Maganja da Costa district of Zambezia Province on 6 August. During the operation the Mozambique Armed Forces killed 12 armed bandits and captured 2 and also recovered an assortment of goods stolen from the residents by the criminals. Children, who were forcibly living with the bandits, were released by FPLM. The goods recovered include five bags of rice, three of corn, and goats, chickens, and household effects.

Mercenary Recruitment Reported in Lisbon

LD131926 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 Gmt 13 Aug 84

[Text] Mozambique is recruiting mercenaries in Lisbon. Recruiting is believed to have begun about a month ago. A former Portuguese paratrooper, who asked to remain anonymous, has told Radio Comercial that he has been offered 300,000 escudos to train elite Mozambique Army troops. The Portuguese instructors will carry out the training in Cabo Delgado Province [words indistinct].

Delegation Returns From RSA Security Talks

MB131730 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The Mozambique delegation led by Major General Jacinto Veloso which had gone to the Republic of South Africa returned to Maputo a short while ago. Maj Gen Jacinto Veloso today handed over a message from Samora Machel to Pieter Botha, the South African prime minister. The meeting with Pieter Botha, which lasted about 1 hour, took place in Pretoria late this morning.

Speaking to journalists after the meeting with the South African side of the Joint Security Commission, Maj Gen Jacinto Veloso said that the meeting with the South African prime minister and the talks held with Roelof Botha, the South African foreign minister, and other South African ministers had been good. Roelof Botha said in turn that the security problems, which are still plaguing Mozambique, must be solved immediately.

He added that any economic and commercial relations and those in other sectors must wait until there is security and stability in Mozambique.

RSA Transportation Talks End; Ministers Comment

MB132015 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] In Maputo, Mozambique and South African government delegations today analyzed issues of mutual interest in the fields of ports, railroads, and civil aviation. At the talks the Mozambican side was headed by Alcantara Santos, the minister of ports, railroads and merchant marine, while the South African delegation was headed by Hendrik Schoeman, minister of transport services. The South African delegation left for home at about 1700.

After the talks the South African delegation toured Maputo port, which is regarded by both countries as the natural port for eastern Transvaal. The delegation inspected places of interest, such as the fruit refrigerating center and the cargo container terminal. They also inspected the Matola dock as the South African delegation, accompanied by the Mozambique delegation, toured Maputo Bay on a tugboat.

Speaking to the news media shortly before the departure of the South Africans for home, Minister Alcantara Santos said that the visit by the South African minister of transport services had been on the cards since the Nkomati Accord. Earlier in the morning the minister had said that there were practical aspects that had to be solved in the economic sector, particularly in the transport sector.

At Maputo, Alcantara Santos further said:

[Begin recording] It is natural that the desire and interest that private economic sectors in South Africa have in Maputo port should lead to coordinating cooperation between ministers holding the transport portfolios. We discussed issues relating to the Maputo harbor and the railroad. We achieved positive results and had similar viewpoints. Therefore, this means that we are happy with this visit, which we regard as very important. I think that Mr Schoeman, the South African minister of transport services, also has something to say. [end recording].

Chissano Comments on Trip to Guinea-Bissau

MB120503 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] On his return from Bissau, where he took part in the meeting of the Portuguese-speaking African countries, Minister Joaquim Chissano denied reports that cooperation with Portugal had been discussed during the meeting. Minister Chissano was answering a question from a Radio Mozambique journalist:

In Bissau, we did not discuss that issue; the question of cooperation between the five countries and Portugal was not even raised, the Mozambican minister said. He added that he had read in certain newspapers that the five countries had intended to put their houses in order first but in Bissau, the possibility of Portugal participating in cooperation in the field of the maritime and air transport had been discussed. There is nothing to this report nor has anything in this regard been discussed. Therfore my perception is that it is a lie, the head of Mozambican diplomacy concluded.

However, he said that in Bissau the assessment that has been made enabled them to check the dynamics and the satisfactory pace of the work being done by the various commissions of the five countries, in economic, political, and diplomatic cooperation. In Bissau, we also discussed the possibility of increasing diplomatic relations among the five countries with regard to reciprocal representation, consular affairs, support among the respective embassies, and cooperation among diplomats.

On political matters, Minister Chissano said that Southern Africa dominated the discussions of the Bissau meeting apart from the economic, cultural, and other questions. The five countries thus condemned the continued occupation of the Angolan territory by South African troops and demanded their withdrawal. In Bissau, the five countries support the positions adopted by Angola in this matter and also reiterated their support to SWAPO and the ANC of Namibia and South Africa respectively.

Finally, the head of Mozambican diplomacy confirmed the visit by Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares to Mozambique, which will probably take place in late August.

Tanzanian Foreign Minister Arrives in Maputo

MB111055 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] Benjamin Mkapa, Tanzania's minister of foreign affairs, has arrived in the country's capital a while ago as part of his tour of the frontline states. The head of the Tanzanian diplomacy was received at the Maputo International Airport by Jose Carlos Lobo, deputy minister of foreign affairs.

Benjamin Mkapa is carrying special messages from Julius Nyerere, Tanzania's head of state and chairman of the frontline states, to the heads of state and government of Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Machel Receives Message on Meeting

MB131214 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] President Samora Machel has received a message from his Tanzanian counterpart, Julius Nyerere, on questions related to the preparations of the conference in support of the Frontline States, which will take place in the city of Arusha on 4 and 5 September. The message was delivered by Benjamin Mkapa, Tanzania's minister of foreign affairs, who was in Maputo on Saturday.

The conference is expected to be attended by the heads of state and government of the Frontline States. The meeting, which is sponsored by the Socialist International, will also be attended by the prime ministers of Sweden, Spain, Italy, and Portugal, respectively Olof Palme, Felipe Gonzalez, Bettino Craxi, and Mario Soares, in addition to other political officials from other continents linked to the Socialist International.

Cape Verde Foreign Minister Arrives

MB140616 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Cape Verde Foreign Minister Silvino da Luz arrived in Maputo this afternoon with a personal message from President Aristides Pereira to President Samora Machel, his Mozambique counterpart.

On arrival at Maputo International Airport, the Cape Verdean foreign minister spoke to Radio Mozambique:

[Begin recording] We are here on an errand for Comrade President Aristides Pereira to deliver a personal message from him to President Samora Machel. Naturally, I cannot disclose the contents of the message as it is meant for the president. I shall only say that comrade President Aristides Pereira asked me to discuss some of our common problems regarding the unity of the OAU, our continental organization. There are also problems affecting the situation in West Africa which I shall discuss with President Samora Machel.

I shall also take this opportunity to discuss with Mozambican officials the problem of relations between our two states — between our parties and governments. In a few words, this is the objective of my current mission to Maputo. [end recording]

NAMIBIA

Spokesman Declines Comment on Botswana Rail Link

MB131936 Windhoek Domestic Service in Afrikaans
1700 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpt] A spokesman for the administrator general's office declined to comment on reports that an agreement has been reached on the building of a railway line that will link Botswana with the coast of South-West Africa. The spokesman said that President Masire's statement will first have to be studied before commenting on it.

Toivo ja Toivo Elected SWAPO Secretary General

MB131913 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] It has been announced in Lusaka that Mr Andimba Toivo ja Toivo has been elected Secretary General of SWAPO. Mr Toivo was released from Robben Island last year.

3 Civilians Killed in Landmine Explosion

MB131835 Windhoek Domestic Service in Afrikaans
1700 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Three civilians were killed in a landmine explosion in Ovambo. The acting secretary of the Ovambo Administration, Mr (Frans Viljoen), says the incident happened yesterday when a motor vehicle triggered the landmine about 25km Northeast of Oshakati.

SWAPO Radio Condemns S. African-Israeli Cooperation

EA141331 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English
1900 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] We comment on Arab solidarity with the Liberation struggle in Southern Africa. A conference of Arab solidarity with the struggle for the liberation of Southern Africa has just ended in the Tunisian capital, Tunis. The conference, held from 7 to 9 August, was organized by the Arab League, the OAU and the frontline states to intensify the Arab countries' support to the Southern African liberation movements.

On Namibia, the conference adopted a special resolution which confirmed the complete solidarity of the Arab people with the just struggle of the Namibian people under the guidance of their sole and legitimate representative, SWAPO of Namibia. The resolution stressed that due to the support given to the apartheid regime by a number of Western countries and Zionist Israel, the regime is continuing its colonial war against the namibian people, stages aggressions against neighboring African countries and creates conditions for the exploitation of manpower and the plunder of Namibian natural wealth by the multinational monopoly.

The Tunis conference is indeed a historic land mark for the struggling people of Namibia and South Africa under the leadership of their vanguard liberation movements - SWAPO and the ANC [African National Congress. The conference assumed particular significance as it was held at a time when International imperialism led by the Reagan administration has intensified its liquidationist conspiracy, not only against the liberation struggle in Southern Africa but also against the heroic struggle of the people of Palestine under their time-tested vanguard, the PLO.

That multidimensional conspiracy executed either directly by Washington or through a notorious surrogate — racist South Africa and Zionist Israel — necessitates closer cooperation and solidarity among the national liberation movements themselves and between the national liberation movements and the Afro-Arab countries.

Recent years have witnessed increased cooperation between racist South African and Zionist Israel as a result of their growing international isolation and in an attempt to arrest the rising tide of the liberation struggle in Southern Africa and the Middle East. For example, in a mere 6 years between 1973 and 1979 trade between the two countries increased by 400 percent.

In the military field Zionist Israel is selling its like-minded partner, racist South Africa, artillery, ammunition, military electronic missiles and gunboats. Racist South Africa is also assembling Israel's multipurpose Kfir jet fighters and the Jericho surface-to-surface missile which is capable of delivering nuclear weapons. As the secretary general of the Arab League, Mr Chedli Klibi, pointed out at the Tunis conference of Arab solidarity with the southern African liberation struggle, south Africa-Israeli collaboration in the nuclear field poses a special danger not only to the people of Africa and the Middle East but is also a serious threat to peace and international security.

The racist enemies of the Arab and African peoples have closed ranks and the African and Arab peoples should meet this challenge by closing their ranks. Arab and African peoples are fighting a common enemy which is imperialism and the colonial system of apartheid and Zionism.

Every battle should therefore be fought with this reality in mind. At this crucial stage of the Liberation struggle in southern African and the Middle East, Afro-Arab countries and peoples should unreservedly and unconditionally increase concrete assistance to the Namibian people through their vanguard movement, SWAPO: The South African people through the ANC and the Palestinian people through their battle-tested vanguard, the PLO. Internationally, the Arab and African countries have a special moral responsibility to work for the continued isolation of racist south Africa and Zionist Israel in all spheres. While hailing the just ended Tunis conference as a tremendous moral booster for the oppressed people of Namibia and South Africa, the Namibian people and their vanguard movement, SWAPO, feel that that conference should be the beginning of a deeper [word indistinct] of fruitful cooperation between the Arab and African peoples for freedom, democracy and social progress.

In the meantime, the liberation struggle in Namibia will be further intensified until victory. Down with the unholy alliance between racist South African and Zionist Israel. Forward with Afro-Arab solidarity. Everything and every effort for the struggle. all for final victory.

SOUTH AFRICA

Mozambican Development Agreement Outlined

MB140851 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Aug 84 p 1

[By Chris Freimond and Anton Harber]

[Excerpt] In one of the most important developments since the signing of the Nkomati Accord in March, South Africa and Mozambique yesterday agreed on a plan to redevelop Maputo harbour and related services.

The project could mean a considerable economic boost to both countries and particularly to Transvaal industrialists and farmers who need Maputo harbour's export facilities.

A 10-point plan was agreed on during talks in Maputo between the Minister of transport affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, and his Mozambican counterpart, Mr Alcantra Santos.

After the talks Mr Schoeman told South African journalists that Maputo harbour had the potential to handle eight million to nine million tons of cargo a year.

Although yesterday's agreement does not apparently involve additional direct financial aid, Mr Schoeman said a R10-million government loan to redevelop transport services had already been approved.

Maputo was a natural gateway for imports and exports for the Transvaal region and it would be "financially beneficial" for the two governments to co-operate to ensrue the success of the port.

He said the discussions "were conducted in an extremely positive atmosphere and with the measure of co-operation that the very improtant Nkomati Accord deserves".

Although South Africa has co-operated with Mozambique in transport fields for some time, the vastly improved political relations between the two governments has opened the way for considerably more South African private and public sector involvement in Mozambique, according to South African officials.

It appeared that an important aspect of yesterday's talks and the benefits that might flow from them was the promotion of confidence in Mozambique, and Maputo barbour in particular, among South African private sector investors.

Included in yesterday's agreement were:

South African technicians will repair and service Mozambican diesel locomotives. Engineers of the SA Transport Services [SATS] will soon visit Maputo to assess the situation.

SATS will also evaluate and repair rolling stock "for the efficient operation of the komati-Maputo line" and has agreed to investigate "physical and managerial" assistance for the smooth running of the two Maputo marshalling yards.

The agreement under which South African Airways technicians service Mozambican aircraft will be extended to include other technical services.

There will be an exchange of know how between the South African and Mozambican railway services.

Mr Schoeman said the 10-point plan was aimed at "picking up the strings of a business agreement that once existed and that functioned extremely well".

"I am confident that today's discussions are a new start to a great future that will help stabilise the situation in southern Africa," he said.

Mozambique's Veloso To Visit, Hold Talks

Security, Protection on Agenda

MB130827 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0812 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Pretoria, Aug 13, SAPA — A top-ranking Mozambican delegation will meet the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and other top officials for a series of talks in Pretoria today.

It is understood that items on the agenda will include security, protection of the Cahora Bassa schemes power lines to South Africa and economic cooperation.

The Mozambican delegation, led by General Jacinto Veloso, minister in the Presidency for Economic Affairs, is scheduled to meet the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, the minister of defence, General Malan, and head of Military Intelligence General P. W. Van der Westhuizen at the Union buildings at 10 am.

An hour later, the delegation will meet the prime minister.

Further talks will probably be held after a luncheon at the government guest house.

Delegation Arrives in Pretoria

MB130851 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] General Jacinto Veloso, the Mozambican minister in the presidency for economic affairs, has arrived in Pretoria for talks today with Prime Minister P.W. Botha and other ministers. The talks will deal with the security situation between South Africa and Mozambique, the Cahora Bassa power scheme, and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Later today Foreign Minister Pik Botha will host a working lunch at which Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Danie Steyn, Agriculture Minister Greyling Wentzel, and Finance Minister Barend du Plessis will be present.

Talks With Veloso Begin

MB131223 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] A series of high-level talks between South Africa and Mozambique on security and economic affairs is being held in Pretoria and in Maputo today. The prime minister, Mr. P.W. Botha, and the Mozambican minister of economic affairs in the office of President Samora Machel, General Jacinto Veloso, held talks at the Union Buildings in Pretoria this morning. Also at the talks were the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, the chief of military intelligence, Lieutenant General P.W. van der Westhuizen; the head of the national intelligence service, Dr Neil Barnard, and other senior officials.

Earlier, Gen Veloso and his delegation had held a separate round of talks with Mr Pik Botha; the minister of defense, General Magnus Malan; and General van der Westhuizen. Among others, the Mozambique delegation comprises the chairman of the joint security commission of the two countries, Mr Sergio Vieira, a senior defense officer, Major General Hama, and the influential secretary of the presidency, Mr Muradali.

At present, the Mozambique delegation is attending a working luncheon hosted by Mr Pik Botha. Others attending the lunch include the ministers of mineral and energy affairs, Mr Danie Steyn; of agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel; of manpower, Mr Piet du Plessis; and of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, as well as the chairman of the tourism board, Mr Danie Hough.

Transport affairs are being discussed by the two countries in the Mozambican capital of Maputo. The minister of transport affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, is heading a 12-man delegation which includes the general manager of South African Transport Services, Dr (Bart Grewe), and the deputy director of commerce, Mr (Sam Scheepers).

Speaking at the opening of his talks with Mr Schoeman, the Mozambican minister of ports, railways, and shipping, Mr Alcantara Santos said that transport was an important economic field that had to be developed between South Africa and Mozambique. He said the private sector in South Africa had shown interest in the transport field, and the two sides had to open the way for successful relations in this respect.

Mr Schoeman said that although politicians signed accords, the main objective of cooperation between two countries was the viability of their economic growth. Mr Schoeman said that the Transvaal should regard Maputo as a natural port. He said South Africa was willing to help so that South African importers and exporters could make greater use of the harbor facilities.

Pik Botha Comments on Talks

MB131640 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1522 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Pretoria, Aug 13, SAPA — South Africa and Mozambique were both firmly resolved to solve the security problem in Mozambique, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today.

Speaking at a press conference in Pretoria shortly after he and a top-ranking Mozambican delegation had held wide-ranging talks, Mr Botha said further meetings would be held in the near future "to sort out the problem once and for all." The security problem posed by the Mozambican resistance movement, Mr Botha added, had "naturally" featured in the talks, which are understood to have included discussions on the protection of the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric line to South Africa.

Mr Botha said the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, had given the assurance that South Africa would adhere to the "spirit and letter" of the Nkomati Accord, signed in March.

The leader of the Mozambican delegation, General Jacinto

Veloso, who is minister in the presidency for economic affairs, said that "apart from the security problem" Mozambique was generally satisfied with the implementation of the accord.

Asked to comment on allegations that non-government elements in South Africa were supplying RENAMO, Mr Pik Botha said that if this was true, the government would take immediate action. "Both South Africa and Mozambique are serious in their intention to solve the security problem first. Economic and agricultural developments will come later," he said. Mr Botha added that South African private sector interests in Mozambique so far looked very encouraging.

Commercial Pact To Be Signed With Mozambique

MB131830 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The chairman of the Lowveld Liaison Committee, Mr (Johnny Henn), has said that the (Repmoza) Agreement to be signed on Inhaca Island in Mozambique on Saturday has aroused tremendous interest among farmers and businessmen in the Lowveld. He described the agreement as a partnership between the Mozambican Government and South African businessmen.

A commercial bank has undertaken to contribute 10,000 rand towards the establishment of a public company which will promote trade between the two countries. A meat processing factory is to be established soon in a Mozambican game reserve with South African aid.

Johannesburg on Jesse Jackson Visa Application

MB130707 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] If you happen to be a liberal-type politician, if you happen to be struggling particularly hard up the greasy pole of political achievement, if you happen to come from a country with its own miserable civil rights record and people whose consciences have to be salved by diverting attention to others and, finally, if you need to boost your reputation as a champion of the oppressed, then all you need to do is visit South Africa for a few days, and you become an instant expert on everything that is moral, immoral, right, wrong, or indifferent.

And so it is that the inimitable Rev Jesse Jackson has once again turned his gaze towards South Africa and, together with an impressive entourage of typical holier-than-thou followers, he is hoping for a visa to pay a second visit to this country. Now, we recall only too well the Rev Jackson's first visit to South Africa in 1979. He stormed into the country, claiming he had a prophetic mission to fulfill, and promptly set about condemning the country's race policies as evil and the government as a terrorist dictatorship.

Rev Jackson caused quite a stir among those who enjoy being stirred, who are forever seeking something or someone to act as a catalyst for generating radical attitudes and actions. Now he wants to return to the country for a repeat performance, probably a much better one, because this time he will be accompanied by a number of like-minded companions, who are definitely well-versed in the art of stimulating the type of mass hysteria which is highly beneficial to their purposes.

Well, South Africa's peoples of all races do not need Rev Jesse jackson in this country at this time. This country is in a process — it is in the throes of change and adaption, which is always tricky and risky and, frequently dangerous. As the colored and Indian elections draw nearer, voice opposing the new dispensation are becoming more strident, and acts of intimidation, violence, and sabotage are being perpetrated throughout the country. Every spark of discontent is being fanned by radical elements within the country. Every difficult situation is being exploitated to the hilt.

Into this volatile — or potentially volatile — situation, Rev Jackson wishes to leap with fervor, firing emotions and inculcating or raising levels of discontent. And when he is finished with us here, he will return home, once again as an expert on South African issues and once again launching an anti-South African campaign. And, indeed, Rev Jackson is a man with many chips on his shoulder.

He annoyed millions of Jewish people when he referred to them as "Hymies" and to New York as "Hymie Town." Anti-semitic remarks made by one of his supporters, Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan, were left uncondemned by Mr Jackson. Mr Farrakhan, had referred to Judaism as a gutter religion and told nations who supported Israel that they were criminals in the sight of God. When asked whether or not he repudiated these remarks, Rev Jesse Jackson maintained a stony silence.

This being the nature of the man, aware as we are of his intentions and motives, no one should blame the government if it either "loses" or refuses Mr Jackson's visa application. Certainly, this country will be none the poorer if Mr Jackson confines his attentions to his own country and its civil rights problems.

Cooperation Department To Be Dissolved

MB110851 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0700 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] The Department of Cooperation and Development is going to be dissolved. That has been confirmed by the outgoing minister of cooperation and development, Piet Koornhof. He said yesterday that an in-depth investigation had been going on for a long period to see how the department could be rationalized. He told a Johannesburg newspaper that his going would facilitate the rationalization.

Yesterday a state president's notice in the government gazette announced that the department's jurisdiction over commissioners' courts would be transferred to the Department of Justice from 1 September. Other subdivisions of the department will be taken over by the departments of manpower and community development.

SWAZILAND

Minister Calls for South African Investment

MB140628 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The minister for commerce, industry, mines, and tourism, Mr Derrick von Wissel, today appealed to the South African Government for help to ease the country's unemployment problem by boosting investment opportunities in the Kingdom.

Speaking to the South African Board of Trade and Industry delegates when he officially opened a 1-day meeting between the South African and Swazi groups at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Mr von Wissel thanked the South African Government for having a keen interest to help Swaziland through full cooperation since the government officials visited Cape Town in April. He said the meeting follows the South African Board of Trade and Industry request to brief the country about its activities, which include the fixing of new customs tariffs which also affect the Kingdom, as it is a member of the South African trade union region.

He told newsmen that the importance of the meeting was the acquaintance of the country to envisage South African protectionist tariffs which may have adverse effect on the economy of the tiny Kingdom, and looking for ways of averting such an occurrence. Mr von Wissel said by briefing the country on its activities, the South African Board of Trade and Industry is trying to enhance both countries' mutual cooperation in important tariffs of customs.

Defense Minister Returns From Taiwan Trip

MB110525 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] The minister for defense and youth, Brigadier Fonono Dube, returned home with his wife from an official working visit to the Republic of China. The defense and youth minister, who spent a week in China, described his visit as educational and informative.

Brig Dube was highly impressed with the fast pace of industrial and economic development which has been achieved by the people of the Republic of China. The industrial and economic development has been achieved through hard work and collective project participation.

On his arrival at the airport, the minister was met by the Chinese ambassador to the Kingdom of Swaziland, Mr Chou Tung-Hua; members of the top brass in the Umbutfo Swaziland Defense Force; the chief of protocol, John Duba; and senior civil servants in the Ministry of Defense and Youth.

Regiments, Chiefs Called to Royal Residence

MB131704 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Her Majesty the Queen Regent Ntombi has appealed to all chiefs to report at Lobamba on Wednesday with all the regiments falling under each chief. Her majesty's appeal was made by Governor Samuel Dvube today at Lobamba. Governor Dvube also appealed to all companies to bring logs by Wednesday this week. Governor Dvube said all regiments from different parts of the country have reported at Lobamba following the national announcement calling all regiments in the country.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Hails Mobutu Landslide Election Victory

MB110635 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] The president, Dr Kaunda, has said the landslide victory Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko scored in the recent presidential elections in Zaire are an expression of the confidence the people have in him. Speaking when roving Zairean Ambassador (Juliar Ngema) called on him at State House yesterday evening, Dr Kaunda said that the result showed clearly what the people think of Mobutu. He noted that Zaire was a big country, with a big population and different ethnic groups, but president Mobutu has managed to bring all these together to form one nation.

ZIMBABWE

RSA Paper Says Mugabe Faces Threat From Military

MB121031 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English
12 Aug 84 p. 1

[*SUNDAY TIMES* Reporter, London]

[Text] Hundreds of men from Zimbabwe's notorious Fifth Brigade were reported by opposition sources in Harare yesterday to have deserted their posts and unrest was said to have spread to other units of the armed forces.

The indications of dissastisfaction and criticism among the troops and officers are being seen by expert Western observers as an alarming challenge for Mr Mugabe as he pushes on with his controversial plans to introduce a one-party Marxist state.

The endorsement of this policy by his ZANU-PF party congress could, it is thought, signal stormy, perhaps violent reactions both inside and outside the forces.

Reports reaching London yesterday from supporters of the self-exiled veteran politician, the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, and sources in Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition ZAPU party said that hundreds of men from the Fifth Brigade had decamped into the bush taking with them arms, including it is believed, armoured cars.

Their departure is a particular blow for Mr Mugabe because the key Fifth Brigade, trained by North Koreans, had been regarded as the most loyal unit in his 60,000 strong army, spearheading government security sweeps against dissidents.

Banana Says Corruption Must Be Rooted Out

MB110846 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, says the present leaders of the country must hand over to future generations a better organized country than the one inherited at independence in 1980. He was speaking at the pass out parade of 15 officers who successfully completed a 14-month third officer cadet training course at the Zimbabwean Military Academy in Gweru yesterday. Comrade Banana said this cannot be achieved if there are some people who adopt a bankrupt policy of dishonesty and exploitation of the country's resources. The president said such people must be rooted out and punished accordingly.

Nigerian Aid to ZANU-PF Detailed at Congress

AB101703 Dakar PANA in English 1643 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Harare, 10 Aug (NAN/PANA) — Nigeria spent over U.S. $8 million for the training of freedom fighters during the liberation war in Zimbabwe, Prime Minister Robert Mugabe disclosed in Harare yesterday. Mr Mugabe, who was introducing Air Commodore Lawrence Konya, head of the Nigerian delegation to the first post-independence congress of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU-PF), said that the money was spent on the party's military training programme.

In the report of the ZANU-PF Central Committee read to the over 6,000 delegates attending the congress, Mr Mugabe had mentioned Nigeria as one of the "progressive" countries which contributed materially and diplomatically toward the successful prosecution of the liberation struggle. The southern Africa correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA quoted the report as saying that with the Nigerian military assistance fund, ZANU-PF was able to train 5,000 of its guerrillas in Tanzania.

Nigeria was also one of the over 20 countries which sent messages of solidarity to the congress which entered its third day today. In the message, Commodore Konya conveyed fraternal greetings from the Nigeria's head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, and the people of the country to Mr Mugabe and the people of Zimbabwe. The Nigerian Government decided to send an official delegation to the congress because of its strong belief in the consolidation of ties among African countries, he said.

CPSU Gives Audio-Visual Materials to ZANU-PF

MB131652 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The CPSU has donated projectors, films, and books by Lenin, Karl Marx, and Engels to ZANU-PF. The donation was presented to the second secretary and vice president of the party, Comrade Simon Muzenda, by a member of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade (Mikhail) Ponomarev in Harare today.

Comrade Muzenda said the books will contribute to the education of party members, who have not been in a position to read works of Lenin and Karl Marx, especially those in the rural areas. He said Zimbabwe, as a new country struggling to build a socialist state, needs all the help it can get from a subject country practising socialism.

Comrade Ponomarev, who represented the Soviet Union at the second ZANU-PF congress, said the CPSU is willing to train Zimbabweans in the manning and the maintenance of the projectors.

Radio Truth Says ZANU-PF Hypocritical on Tribalism

MB131112 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Harare city council elections this month produced few surprises. As everyone expected, ZANU-PF won by large majorities.

Apart from the fact that ZAPU candidates contested some of the seats for the first time, there is little of significance to report except for one item. The ZAPU candidates were branded by all and sundry as Nbebele or dissidents or dissident supporters. Even government officials and the press joined in the campaign and denigrated opposition candidates, merely because they belonged to a different political party or a different ethnic group.

As a result, all the ZAPU contenders were soundly defeated. Whether one can describe this as nepotism, tribalism, or regionalism, we leave to our listeners to judge for themselves.

What we do say, however, is that ZANU-PF are guilty of hypocrisy when they condemn these so-called evils. They indeed are sole offenders. We have only to look at what they do as opposed to what they say. Take for instance the great national congress being held at the Borrowdale race course. Here many senior party officials and leaders, past and present, are competing for personal appointment to the seats of power.

These appointments, if we are to believe the media, will affect our nation for better or for worse for generations to come. We are told that those selectors will be chose on pure merit and through a strictly democratic process. The result, as we said, will reflect the will of the people.

Whatever our own feelings about the congress and its agenda, we recognize that it is an event of considerable importance. Not only are the future leaders of ZANU-PF to be elected, but their methods of selection will give an indication of a kind of democracy they stand for. In such circumstances, we would expect that every effort would be made to exclude any hint or suggestion of those dreadful sins: nepotism and regionalism.

Why then, in the closed session of the congress, were two prominent Manica representatives debarred from election to the party's Central Committee? We hold no brief whatever for either Edgar Tekere or Kumbirai Kangai, but both of them have held important positions in the party since its inception.

Currently, Tekere is the elected ZANU-PF chairman of Manica Province. Kangai is a senior Cabinet minister and has been a member of the party's inner councils for the past 20 years. There may well be other reasons for their fall from grace. We can think of one or two ourselves. But the fact that they both belong to the Manica ethnic group arouses suspicion as for the real motive.

Furthermore, the nominations for the party president and vice president did not display the best of democratic traditions. We all expected the result, but the method was a little disturbing. The moment the names of the present incumbents were proposed, no further nominations were accepted. There might not have been many, but at least they could have gone through the motions.

We are also intrigued by Maurice Nyagumbo's statement that mischievous reasons were behind the late arrival of the provincial delegation from Masvingo. This is Karanga territory and they are a very powerful lobby. Did some Zezuru enthusiast overstep the mark?

Whatever certain ZANU-PF leaders may say to the contrary, tribal and subtribal influences are still very potent factors in our society, as the women's league demonstrated. Organizers of the national congress may try and manipulate events to conform to their plans, but they may not be entirely successful. Two whole train loads of delegates have come from Manica Province.

It will be interesting to see [words indistinct] exclusion of their favorite son. Whether the final result does reflect the will of the people or the will of the chosen few remains to be seen. We shall report on the final installment in due course.

Radio Truth Critiques ZANU-PF Congress

MB131000 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] To the strains of the Internationale, the world-wide hymn of socialist and communist parties, the ZANU-PF national congress got underway. There was nearly a foulup before it started.

As we told you, the draft party constitution provided that all 15 members of the new Poliburo would be chosen by the party president in consultation with his number two. Some leading members from the provinces were strongly opposed to this concentration of power and proposed that the politburo should be elected by the new Central Committee as a whole. However, a compromise has been reached and a major confrontation averted.

The details of the party president's long opening address has been well chronicled by all the media, and we will not bore you with the repetition. Suffice it to say that the choice of the Internationale as the opening theme music was most appropriate. The president clearly outlined a road to socialism governed by Marxist-Leninist principles. This no doubt gained the hearty approval of the many special guest from the communist bloc. Delegates were treated to a display of histrionics by President Kenneth Kaunda and Samora Machel. The former is undoubtedly polishing his marble in anticipation of being nominated as the next OAU chairman.

We will reserve comment on the proceedings until the congress is finished, when we have been able to study the portent of the resolutions and the signifiance of the membership of the Central Committee and the Politburo. So far our worst fears are being realized.